

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB



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The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

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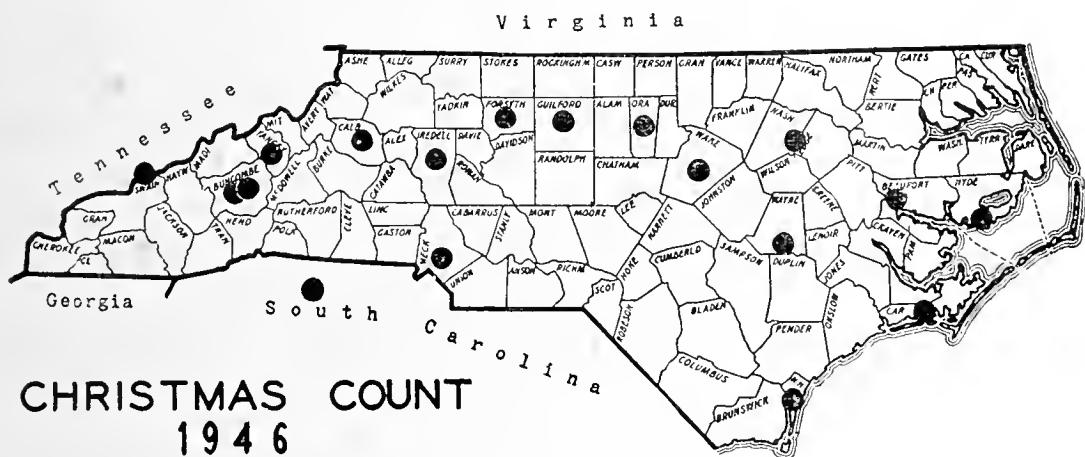
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Annual Christmas Bird Count, 1946

ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY, Greensboro, N. C.

We received from members of the North Carolina Bird Club Christmas counts from eighteen localities in North and South Carolina, and Tennessee, including: Asheville, Chapel Hill, Charlotte, Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Tenn.), Greensboro, Lenoir, Morehead City, Mount Olive, Pea Island (Dare County, N. C.), Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Ross-craggon Wood Sanctuary (Buncombe County, N. C.), Spartanburg (South Carolina), Statesville, Washington, Wilmington, Windom, and Winston-Salem. The eighteen localities reported 159 different species and subspecies, which is twenty-six more than last year's total.



In species counts, Wilmington leads with a record count of 94, which is far above the record species counts of 75 and 73, made in past years at Chapel Hill and Rocky Mount. The Wilmington list, which contains at least twelve species not reported in this year's counts from our other localities, includes, among others, Greater Shearwater, Gannet, Ward's Heron (possibly a new record), Snowy Egret (a winter record), Green Heron (2; a winter record), Dovekie, Forster's Tern, and Common Tern (which is supposed to winter farther south). Mrs. Cecil Appleberry invited several of the younger bird students from Mount Olive, Raleigh, and Greensboro to join the Wilmington group and the results, both in bird species and enthusiasm, were highly gratifying. Mrs. Appleberry believes that with additional observers they could have listed 150 species. On the day following their official count, some of the Wilmington party made another trip, and observed several additional species, including, among others, Oyster Catcher, American Scoter, Brown Pelican, and Royal Tern.

Dr. Thomas Hall at Wilmington, identified a Mississippi Kite (on Dec. 29), which is apparently a new record for eastern North Carolina.

Chapel Hill and Raleigh almost tie for second place for number of species, reporting, respectively, 70 and 69. Ten of the eighteen localities reporting, listed 50 or more species, which is certainly a good record: The laurel wreath for individual count goes to Bob Holmes, III, at Mount Olive, who turned in a list of 66 species. The best previous individual Christmas count in this region was made at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, in 1942, by Cpl. Ben Coffey (formerly editor of *The Migrant*, the journal of the Tennessee Ornithological Society), who turned in a list of 53 species, which exceeded by 2 species the former individual record count which was made by Joe Biggs at Washington. A moderate number of varieties of ducks were reported from inland localities, particularly at Raleigh and Chapel Hill, but the species and individual counts were not up to usual years, possibly reflecting to some extent reduced numbers, but quite likely due in part, at least, to the mild weather which has prevailed so far this season.

But the mild season which failed to drive the waterfowl south, was probably responsible for the larger number of species and individuals of those kinds which do not go much farther south for the winter, as Catbird (4 localities list a total of 8); Brown Thrasher (8 localities report 29); Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Asheville and Mount Olive, 1 each; Wilmington, 10); Chipping Sparrow, reported in moderate numbers from five localities; from Asheville and Spartanburg, S. C., to Wilmington); Asheville, a single Mountain Vireo; and Wilmington, one of the related variety, Blue-headed Vireo; Palm Warblers, reported at Mount Olive (1, Western), Raleigh (2, Yellow), Spartanburg, S. C. (4), Washington (5), Wilmington (1), and (1) during the week of the count; at Gatlinburg, Tenn. (Great Smoky Mts. Natl. Park); Yellow-throat, reported at Chapel Hill (1), Mount Olive (1), and Wilmington (3); Lark Sparrow (1), rare for this region, reported at Mount Olive; and twelve of the rare (for us) Lincoln's Sparrows, reported at Asheville.

Possible new winter records for North Carolina are: Ward's Heron (Wilmington, 1); Snowy Egret (Wilmington, 2); Green Heron (Wilmington, 3); Willet (Morehead City, 2); Common Tern (Wilmington, 16); Eastern Kingbird (Wilmington, 1); House Wren (Mount Olive, 1; Wilmington, 2); and Black and White Warbler (Asheville, 2). Asheville reports 100 Snow Buntings (previous records were from the east

coast), and also reports a Wood Pewee, which is supposed to be much farther south during this season of the year.

One Red Crossbill was reported at Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tenn.; Oranged-crowned Warbler (6), was reported only at Spartanburg, S. C., and Pipits were reported only from Spartanburg and Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The erratic Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported at 12 of the eighteen observation areas, from the Smokies to Wilmington; Purple Finches were reported from 10 localities; and Pine Siskins, reported from 9 of our localities, were apparently generally fairly abundant (Greensboro counted 251). Redpolls were observed at Arden (Rosscraggon Wood Sanctuary) and Asheville, which are additions to the rather few records of this species in North Carolina. Another Redpoll record, and perhaps more unusual so far as locality is concerned, was sent from Raleigh, where 8 (all males) were seen, by several competent observers, feeding with Goldfinches and Purple Finches. D. L. Wray, one of the group observing these 8 Redpolls at Raleigh (Dec. 27), states: "It was early morning and the sunshine brought out the red patch on the top of the head very brilliantly."

Two Snowy Owls were reported from the Pea Island area in Dare county, which is somewhat unexpected, so soon after the large "flight" of the arctic birds into the United States of America during the winter of 1945-1946.

Bob Wolff and Franklin Anderson, in the course of checking the Morehead City region, spent an hour in a Cub observation airplane, with pilot MSgt. F. Rosenburg of the United States Marine Corps, Cherry Point, N. C.; and a group working in the Pea Island region spent an hour in the air between Pea Island and Ocracoke.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.: From Beaver Lake south to Rosscraggon, and from Dryman Mountain east to Bee Tree Road; open farmland 15%, town suburbs 35%, pine woodland 15%, deciduous woodland 10%, pine and deciduous woodland 10%, lake and stream banks 14%, marsh 1%. Dec. 28—7:30 A.M. to 4 P.M. Partly cloudy to cloudy and rain (4 P.M.); temp. 45° to 65° F.; no wind; unseasonable warm fall may account for some of the species seen. Forty-seven observers in 16 parties. Total hours, 77; total miles, 155 (75 on foot, 80 in car—not for observation, but to more nearly cover some areas). Pied-billed Grebe, 3; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 2; Cooper's Hawk, 3; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Ruffed Grouse, 1; Bob-white, 24; Mourning Dove, 41; Barred Owl, 1; Kingfisher, 1; Flicker, 21; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 8; Hairy Woodpecker, 9; Southern Downy Woodpecker, 44; Northern Downy Woodpecker, 2 (J. N. McC.); Phoebe, 5; Wood-Pewee, 1; Blue Jay, 120; Crow, 154; Carolina Chickadee, 221; Tufted Titmouse, 218; White-breasted Nuthatch, 80; Redbreasted Nuthatch, 15; Brown Creeper, 14; Winter Wren, 7; Carolina Wren, 80; Mockingbird, 29; Robin, 36; Hermit Thrush,

4; Bluebird, 85; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 1 (E. K.—Last date seen by O. C. in another place, Nov. 30); Golden-crowned Kinglet, 129; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 22; Cedar Waxwing, 40; Starling, 229; Mountain Vireo, 1 (O. C.); Black and White Warbler, 2; Myrtle Warbler, 30; English Sparrow, 645; Meadowlark, 15; Red-wing, 45; Purple Grackle, 5; Cardinal, 135; Purple Finch, 27; Red-poll, 52; Pine Siskin, 26; Goldfinch, 127; Towhee, 124; Savannah Sparrow, 10; Grasshopper Sparrow, 4; Junco, 366; Tree Sparrow, 5; Chipping Sparrow, 14; Field Sparrow, 177; White-crowned Sparrow, 1; White-throated Sparrow, 112; Fox Sparrow, 4; Lincoln's Sparrow, 12 (seen close at feeding station); Swamp Sparrow, 13; Song Sparrow, 106; Snow Bunting, 100 (E. K.—probably migrating). Total 64 species; 3816 individuals. *Anabel Adams, Mrs. Albert Blake, Mrs. Boyce Brannon, Odessa Chambers, Elizabeth Collins, Andrew Ficken, Charles Ficken, Dodette W. Grinnell, Hugh Gowan, Charles Herbert, E. Annette Hinds, (Compiler), Robert Hoch, Louise Ingersoll, Ben Jones, Leland Jones, Ethel Klemm, Mrs. E. S. Koon, D. W. Lacy, Lucinda Lacy, Nita Lacy, Miss Lawler, Johnny Ledbetter, Panelle Lovette, Harry Lytle, Nicholas McCabe, Mrs. J. N. McCabe, Eileen McCabe, Sheila McCabe, Dorothy Meredith, Nancy Meredith, Joe Middleton, Tommy Moodie, Jack Mulvaney, Madeline Murray, Aldine Pleasant, R. H. Rembert, Raphael Rice, Carolina Robinson, Bobby Ruiz, Mrs. E. B. Ruiz, John Sales, Joyce Stevens, G. S. Tennant, Barbara Thorne, Eugene Ward, Mrs. Eugene Ward, T. F. Young, Mrs. T. F. Young.* (Asheville Bird Club and guests).

NOTE: The white crowned sparrow had been seen by Odessa Chambers, an experienced observer, a few miles from location of this one, up to mid-December. Seen at Warren Wilson College, Dec. 21, 35 (est.) male Indigo Buntings.—E. A. H.

CHAPEL HILL, N. C. (same area as in past several years; oak-hickory woods 15%, pine forest 10%, lowland thickets and farmland 55%, marsh and lake shores 20%).—Dec. 22; 6:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Clear; wind NW 5-20 m.p.h.; temp. 31°-48° F. Three observers in 3 parties in A.M.; 4 observers in 4 parties in P.M. Total miles, 22 (on foot); total hours, 26 (on foot). Pied-billed Grebe, 2; Great Blue Heron, 2; Common Loon, 1 (B. H.); Mallard, 5; Black Duck, 53; Wood Duck, 1; Ring-necked Duck, 77; Scaup, 1; Bufflehead, 7; Hooded Merganser, 2; American Merganser, 1; Turkey Vulture, 19; Black Vulture, 2; Red-Tailed Hawk, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 25; Killdeer, 2; Mourning Dove, 7; Barred Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Flicker, 22; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 8; Redheaded Woodpecker, 7; Yellow bellied Sapsucker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 11; Downy Woodpecker, 11; Phoebe, 7; Blue Jay, 46; Crow, 34; Carolina Chickadee, 43; Tufted Titmouse, 32; White-breasted Nuthatch, 11; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 8; Winter Wren, 5; Carolina Wren, 22; Mockingbird, 9; Brown Thrasher, 1; Robin, 3; Hermit Thrush, 10; Bluebird, 31; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 27; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 13; Cedar Waxwing, 29; Migrant Shrike, 4; Starling, 91; Yellow-throat, 1 (male—H.T.O.); Myrtle Warbler, 32; Pine Warbler, 2; English Sparrow, 20; Meadowlark, 82; Red-wing, 8; Rusty Blackbird, 1; Cardinal, 66; Purple Finch, 61; Pine Siskin, 6; Goldfinch, 27; Red-eyed Towhee, 54; Savannah Sparrow, 35; Vesper Sparrow, 1; White-throated Sparrow, 526; Fox Sparrow, 38; Swamp Sparrow, 56; Song Sparrow, 473. Total, 70 species; 2715 individuals.—*William Hamnet, Mrs. Ove Jensen, Howard T. Odum, Mrs. David Olsen, Phillips Russell, Fremont Shepherd, Maurice Whittinghill.*

CHARLOTTE, N. C. (Four areas: Two same as last four years, Lucas estate and around headwaters of McAlpine creek; and Clarkson city garden. Two new areas, pond two miles east of city off of Albemarle highway, and Morrison estate

four miles south of city. Pine, gum, poplar woodland 50%, farmland 40%, hedge-rows 7%, small ponds and garden 3%.) Dec. 27—7:15 A. M. to 5:30 P. M. Clear, wind 1-7 m.p.h. Temp. 41°-70° F. Eleven observers in three parties. Total hours 22 (18 on foot). Total miles 46 (30 by car, 16 on foot). Hooded Merganser, 3; Turkey Vulture, 24; Black Vulture, 11; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Bob-white, 18; Killdeer, 10; Mourning Dove, 23; Screech Owl, 1; Flicker, 6; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1; Red-headed Woodpecker, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 6; Phoebe, 2; Blue Jay, 10; Crow, 90; Carolina Chickadee, 39; Tufted Titmouse, 17; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 4; Winter Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 17; Mockingbird, 14; Robin, 6; Hermit Thrush, 3; Bluebird, 62; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 10; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 16; Shrike, 4; Starling, 35; Myrtle Warbler, 62; Pine Warbler, 2; English Sparrow, 116; Meadowlark, 35; Red-wing, 19; Cardinal, 30; Purple Finch, 5; Pine Siskin, 128; Goldfinch, 44; Red-eyed Towhee, 9; Savannah Sparrow (found freshly killed by roadside), 1; Junco, 133; Field Sparrow, 61; White-throated Sparrow, 35; Song Sparrow, 19. Total 48 species, 1145 individuals. All larger numbers estimated. Seen in area Dec. 25th., Horned Lark, 75 (estimated).—*B. R. Chamberlain (compiler), B. R. Chamberlain, Jr., Mrs. E. O. Clarkson, Miss Kitty Constable, Jack F. Dermid, Tom Henderson, Will Hon, Jim Layton, Miss Anne Locke, Hunter Marshall, Brem Mayer, Jr. (Mecklenburg Audubon Club).*

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK, Tenn. (Same area as in past 9 years; circle of 7½ miles radius centering on Bull Head of Mt. LeConte, including a section of the Tennessee-North Carolina divide from Collins Gap to Mt. Kephart; towns of Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge; spruce-fir forest 35%, open farmland 30%, towns and suburbs 20%, abandoned fields 10%, deciduous forest 5%). Dec. 29—dawn to dusk. Heavy rain throughout morning, clearing in afternoon; temp. 50° to 70° F.; wind occasionally strong but mostly moderate; ground bare and wet at all altitudes; streams running at near-flood stage. Altitude range 1200 to 6000 feet. Twenty-one observers in eight parties. Total party hours, 42; total miles, 135 (100 by car, 35 on foot). Turkey Vulture, 48; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1 (fresh remains of one which had been killed and partially eaten); Duck Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Ruffed Grouse, 3; Bob-white, 3; Killdeer, 7; Wilson's Snipe, 1; Mourning Dove, 22; Screech Owl, 1; Kingfisher, 4; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Phoebe, 3; Raven, 4; Crow, 80; Chickadee (both Black-capped and Carolina observed), 147; Tufted Titmouse, 4; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 11; Brown Creeper, 1; Winter Wren, 3; Carolina Wren, 12; Mockingbird, 6; Robin, 9; Hermit Thrush, 5; Bluebird, 30; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 62; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 17; Pipit, 120 (est.—one flock); Cedar Waxwing, 13; Migrant Shrike, 1; Starling, 143 (est.); Myrtle Warbler, 11; English Sparrow, 73; Meadowlark, 28; Cowbird, 30; Cardinal, 128; Purple Finch, 2; Pine Siskin, 4; Goldfinch, 45; Red Crossbill, 1; Towhee, 3; Savannah Sparrow, 5; Junco (both Slate-colored and Carolina represented), 218; Field Sparrow, 79; White-throated Sparrow, 22; Song Sparrow, 40; Total, 51 species and subspecies; approximately 1,459 individuals. (Seen in area Dec. 26-30: Sharp-Shinned Hawk, 1; Turkey, 2; Palm Warbler, 1; Fox Sparrow, 1—also flocks of up to 40 Pine Siskins.)—*Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Broome, Mary Ruth Chiles, Brockway Cronch, Edward Dougherty, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Dunbar, Harry Henry, Elizabeth Johnson, William M. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Monroe, Elise Morrell, W. F. Pearson, Norman Russell, Dr. and Mrs. Royal E. Shanks, Arthur Stupka, W. A. Sutherland, Paul Yambert, William Yambert, (members and guests Tennessee Ornithological Society and National Park Service).*

GREENSBORO, N. C. (Section 15 miles across; approximately same region as last several years, including Pinecraft, Starmount, Municipal Golf Course, Richard-

son estate, Greensboro County Park, Lakes Brandt, Scales, Benjamin, Jeanette, Philadelphia, Buffalo, and Sharpe, and White Oak Pond; deciduous and pine woodlands 25%, open fields and golf courses 25%, cattail marsh and thickets 15%, fresh water lakes 25%, city yards, parkways and campuses 10%.) December 22—6:30 A. M.-5:30 P. M. Weather: clear, windy in morning (NW wind, velocity 15 mph), ground bare and wet, water open, temp. 31°-47° F. Observers in 9 parties mostly. Total hours 53½. Total miles 32½ on foot, 30 by car. Pied-billed Grebe, 4; Great Blue Heron, 1; Black Duck, 12; Ring-necked Duck, 55; Canvas-back Duck, 1; Hooded Merganser, 2; Turkey Vulture, 36; Black Vulture, 14; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 2; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Bob-white, 2; Killdeer, 24; Wilson's Snipe, 3; Mourning Dove, 33; Barn Owl, 1; Screech Owl, 1; Kingfisher, 4; Flicker, 41; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 5; Red-headed Woodpecker, 8; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 5; Hairy Woodpecker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 21; Phoebe, 9; Horned Lark, 12; Blue Jay, 48; Crow, 188; Chickadee, 98; Tufted Titmouse, 35; White-breasted Nuthatch, 29; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 52; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 8; Brown Creeper, 9; Winter Wren, 9; Carolina Wren, 43; Mockingbird, 56; Brown Thrasher, 4; Robin, 24; Hermit Thrush, 7; Bluebird, 79; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 252; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 136; Shrike, 2; Starling, 1441; Myrtle Warbler, 3; Pine Warbler, 20; English Sparrow, 184; Meadowlark, 37; Red-wing, 1; Cardinal, 81; Purple Finch, 102; Pine Siskin, 251; Goldfinch, 231; Red-eyed Towhee, 53; Savannah Sparrow, 77; Vesper Sparrow, 50; [REDACTED] Junco, 1312; Field Sparrow, 154; White-throated Sparrow, 318; Fox Sparrow, 5; Swamp Sparrow, 5; Song Sparrow, 119. Total species 65; total individuals 5819. *Dr. Frank Brown, George A. Bryant, Harry Bryant, John Carr, Mrs. W. C. Carr, Miss Inez Coldwell, Bill Craft, Mrs. F. H. Craft (compiler), Larry Crawford, Mrs. R. D. Douglas, Miss Ethel McNairy, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Medford, Hugh Medford, Jr., Oscar Paris, Mr. and Mrs. George Perrett, Miss Etta Schiffman, Mrs. Edith Settan, Mrs. R. E. Settan, Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, George A. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Swart, Thatcher Townsend, John Trott Jr.* (Members and guests of the Piedmont Bird Club.)

LENOIR (Caldwell County), N. C.: (Area, approximately 7 sq. mi., in and around Lenoir: Woodland, pasture, a few small streams, back yard sanctuaries.) Dec. 29. Weather warm, cloudy, with showers and sunshine. Nine observers, in five teams; total hours, 12. Mourning Dove, 20; Flicker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Blue Jay, 2; Chickadee, 10; Tufted Titmouse, 16; White-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown Creeper, 1; Carolina Wren, 5; Mockingbird, 2; Robin, 2; Hermit Thrush, 1; Bluebird, 5; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 4; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 3; Myrtle Warbler, 2; Pine Warbler, 2; English Sparrow, 28; Cardinal, 12; Red-eyed Towhee, 4; [REDACTED] Junco, 30; Field Sparrow, 2; White-throated Sparrow, 25; Song Sparrow, 6. Total species, 26; individuals, 191. *Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Greer, Mrs. Elizabeth Harper, Miss Margaret Harper, Ben Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Parks, Miss May Puett, Mrs. C. S. Warren.*

MOREHEAD CITY, BEAUFORT, ATLANTIC BEACH and vicinity, N. C.—40% salt marsh land and shore; 50% open water in bay, sound, brackish ponds; 10% myrtle, yaupon, scrub cedar thickets to 14ft. high. Dec. 21, 1946. Hard rain 6:30 A.M. to 8 A.M., overcast with heavy fog until 10:30, clearing slowly until 3:00 P.M. Light NE to E wind. Temp. 48° to 62° F. Two observers together on foot 3 miles and in car 22 miles; 1 hour in Cub observation plane flying over area. Common Loon, 7; Horned Grebe, 9; Pied-Billed Grebe, 2; Double-crested Cormorant, 5; Great Blue Heron, 26; American Egret, 6; Mallard, 14; Black Duck, 44; Pintail, 38; Wood Duck, 6; Scaup Duck, 9; Golden-eye Duck, 3; Buffle-head Duck, 63; Hooded Merganser, 3; Red-breasted Merganser, 9; Turkey Vulture, 8; Black Vulture, 3;

Bald Eagle, 16; Marsh Hawk, 8; Osprey, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Killdeer, 2; Willet, 2; Greater Yellow-legs, 7; Sanderling, 31; Herring Gull, 4500 (est.); Ring-billed Gull, 14; Bonaparte's Gull, 38; Mourning Dove, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Flicker, 1; Horned Lark, 4; American Crow, 46; Fish Crow, 2; Carolina Wren, 1; Mockingbird, 3; Bluebird, 7; Shrike, 3; Starling, 18; Myrtle Warbler, 4; English Sparrow, 35; Meadowlark, 18; Red-wing, 250 (est.); Purple Grackle, 13; Cardinal, 1; Towhee, 2; Sea-side Sparrow, 2; Junco, 7; Field Sparrow, 12; White-throated Sparrow, 2; Song Sparrow, 5. Total species, 51; approximately 5315 individuals. (Particular emphasis placed on water-fowl but unusually small number of ducks seen. Local reports are that those normally seen in this vicinity are staying well out in sound. Observations made from plane covering at least 15 miles area still did not bring but few ducks to view. Local reports also are that early in November, during a cold snap, more ducks were seen, but this observer has made three trips to this vicinity during fall without seeing very many. R. L. W.)—Observers: FRANKLIN ANDERSON, Selma; R. L. WOLFF, Goldsboro. Pilot of plane, MSGT. F. ROSENBURG, USMC, Cherry Point, N. C.

MT. OLIVE, N. C. (Wooten, Williams, and Brandon Farms; open fields 50%, pine woods 10%, mixed pine and deciduous woods 35%, small ponds 5%), Dec. 22—dawn to dusk plus one 10 P.M. observation. Fair all day; temp. 32° F. to 45° F.; light wind. One observer. Total hours, 11; total miles, 10 (on foot). Pied-billed Grebe, 2; Turkey Vulture, 5; Black Vulture, 14; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 2; Red-shouldered Hawk, 4; Marsh Hawk, 3; Pigeon Hawk, 1 (seen at close range, perched and in flight); Sparrow Hawk, 6; Bob-white, 13; Killdeer, 4; Dove, 24; Great Horned Owl, 1; Screech Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Flicker, 32; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 8; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 11; Phoebe, 16; Blue Jay, 6; Crow 15; Carolina Chickadee, 7; Tufted Titmouse, 9; White-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 5; Brown Creeper, 5; House Wren, 1; Winter Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 12; Mockingbird, 7; Catbird, 1; Brown Thrasher, 5; Robin, 465 (partly est.); Hermit Thrush, 8; Bluebird, 36; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 1 (recognized by song, white on tail, and actions); Golden-crowned Kinglet, 22; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 16; Cedar Waxwing, 53; Shrike, 5; Starling, 95; Myrtle Warbler, 41; Pine Warbler, 1; Western Palm Warbler, 1; Yellow-throat, 1; English Sparrow, 250; Meadowlark, 65; Red-wing, 215; Cowbird, 10; Cardinal, 14; Purple Finch, 1; Goldfinch, 175; Towhee, 28; Savannah Sparrow, 37; Vesper Sparrow, 1; Lark Sparrow, 1 (white on tip of tail noted, observed at 40 ft. through 8 by 32 binoculars, characteristic face also noted); Junco, 90; Chipping Sparrow, 26; Field Sparrow, 70; White-throated Sparrow, 120 (est.); Fox Sparrow, 1; Swamp Sparrow, 2; Song Sparrow, 110 (est.). Total: 66 species; 2,290 individuals.—BOB HOLMES IH.

PEA ISLAND, BODIE ISLAND, OREGON INLET, Dare Co., N. C.—50% open water; 30% salt marsh, ponds and shore; 20% sand dunes mostly covered with high grass and few myrtle bushes. Dec. 27. Slightly overcast clearing by 8:30 A.M. Very light S Wind. Temp. 45° to 55° F. Five observers together (see note.) Total hours, 9 on foot and truck. Total miles: 45 in truck, 5 on foot. Common Loon, 6; Horned Grebe, 1; Pied-bill Grebe, 20; Gannet, 3000; Double-crested Cormorant, 1; Great Blue Heron, 5; American Egret, 8; Little Blue Heron, 3; American Bittern, 1; Whistling Swan, 76; Canada Goose, 6000 (est.); Brant, 200 (est.); Snow Goose, 3500 (est.); Blue Geese, 7; Mallard, 1; Black Duck, 1000 (est.); Pintail, 500 (est.); Green-winged Teal, 200 (est.); Shoveller, 60 (est.); Scaup Duck, 3; Surf Scoter, 1; Ruddy Duck, 21; Red-breasted Merganser, 300 (est.); Sharp-shinned Hawk, 3; Bald Eagle, 18; Marsh Hawk, 3; Osprey, 1; Pigeon Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Coot, 175 (est.); Greater Yellow-legs, 35; Sanderling, 1; Black-back Gull, 46;

Herring Gull, 4000 plus (est.); Bonaparte's Gull, 1; Black Skimmer, 60; Snowy Owl, 2; Tree Swallow, 1500 (est.); Crow, 1; Short-billed Marsh Wren, 3; Catbird, 1; Myrtle Warbler, 8; English Sparrow, 26; Meadowlark, 15; Red-wing, 125 (est.); Boat-tailed Grackle, 15; Purple Grackle, 1; Cardinal, 1; Sea-side Sparrow, 18; Field Sparrow, 12; Song Sparrow, 3. Total species, 50; approximately 20987 individuals. Observers: CHARLES M. PARKER, Pea Island Refuge Mgr.; DICK BORDEN, Goldsboro; FRANK STALLINGS, Smithfield; MAC GOODWIN, Kenly; R. L. WOLFF, Goldsboro.

Note—Group spent 1 hour in air between Pea Island and Ocracoke over the banks going down and over shoals along mainland on return trip. Very few geese, ducks and brant seen from air.

RALEIGH, N. C. (Practically same area as previous counts: lakes and small ponds 40%, mixed pine and deciduous woodland 15%, deciduous woodland 10%, open fields 10%). Dec. 27—7:30-5:30; clear and fair all day mostly calm; temp. 40°-60° F.; ground bare, water open except in sheltered places some ice. Sixteen observers in five parties. Total hours, 27 (24 on foot, 3 by car); total miles, 35 (27 on foot, 8 by car). Horned Grebe, 1; Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Great Blue Heron, 1; Little Blue Heron, 1; Mallard, 10; Black Duck, 50; Gadwall, 4; Pintail, 1; Green-winged teal, 2; Ring-necked Duck, 200; Lesser Scaup, 23; American Golden-eye, 2; Bufflehead Duck, 10; Ruddy Duck, 6; Hooded Merganser, 8; Turkey Vulture, 10; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Marsh Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Bobwhite, 23; Killdeer, 6; Woodcock, 1; Mourning Dove, 4; Kingfisher, 7; Flicker, 11; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 4; Red-headed Woodpecker, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 7; Phoebe, 2; Blue Jay, 42; Crow, 29; Chickadee, 38; Tufted Titmouse, 20; White-breasted Nuthatch, 6; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Brown Creeper, 7; Winter Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 19; Mockingbird, 31; Brown Thrasher, 3; Hermit Thrush, 4; Bluebird, 48; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 17; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 3; Cedar Waxwing, 50; Shrike, 1; Starling, 175; Myrtle Warbler, 10; Pine Warbler, 10; Yellow Palm Warbler, 2; English Sparrow, 86; Meadow Lark, 29; Cowbird, 25; Cardinal, 44; Purple Finch, 22; Redpoll, 8; Pine Siskin, 18; Goldfinch, 46; Red-eyed Towhee, 21; Savannah Sparrow, 10; Vesper Sparrow, 1; ~~Junco~~, 117; Field Sparrow, 12; White-throated Sparrow, 79; Swamp Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 71. Total 69 species; 1517 individuals. *D. L. Wray, Mrs. Charlotte H. Green, F. B. Meacham, G. M. Garren, Robt. Overing, C. H. Bostian, Robert Cooper, Jo Ann Meacham, Frank Meacham, Miss Virginia Pickell, Miss Jackie Johnson, Miss Buffaloe, E. W. Winkler, Mrs. J. Y. Phelps and Girl Scout Troop, Roberta Dixon, Sam Braxton, John David Wray.*

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. (Nobles Mill Pond, suburban Rocky Mount and Beach Run Swamp: Shore line 30%, open farm land 20%; residence area 10%; pine woods 20%; hedgerows 20%). Dec. 26—7:30 A.M.-1 P.M. and 2:45-5:20 P.M. Winds 15 m.p.h.; temp. 30° to 40° F., overcast skies in morning, with rising temp. to 55° and clear skies in afternoon. Two observers in one party. Total hours on foot and boat 6 hours, covering 10 miles; driving car 30 miles from different main points of observation. Great Blue Heron, 1; Canada Goose, 1; Turkey Vulture, 3; Cooper's Hawk, 2; Killdeer, 1; Mourning Dove, 7; Flicker, 13; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Phoebe, 3; Blue Jay, 11; Crow, 19; Chickadee, 4; Tufted Titmouse, 9; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown Creeper, 2; Carolina Wren, 4; Mockingbird, 12; Bluebird, 10; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 3; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 13; Cedar Waxwing, 18; Shrike, 8; Starling, 19; Myrtle Warbler, 33; Pine Warbler, 11; English Sparrow, 4; Meadowlark, 57; Red-Wing, 4; Rusty Blackbird, 2; Cardinal, 15; Goldfinch, 111; Towhee, 2; Savannah Sparrow, 14; ~~Junco~~, 43; Field Sparrow, 10; White-throated Sparrow, 54; Song Sparrow, 1. Total 37 Species; 530 individuals. *REV. GRAY TEMPLE AND J. W. E. JOYNER.*

ROSSCRAGGON WOOD SANCTUARY, and Royal Pines Section, (Arden, Buncombe County), N. C. (About the same area covered for the past ten years; elevation, 2300 to 2700 ft.; Hardwood mountain land 60%, pine woodland 30%; meadow 10%.) Dec. 28. Overcast most of day; light rain after 4:00 P.M.; very mild and still; temp. 35° to 64° F. Two observers, together part of the time. Total hours 7 (on foot); total miles 5 (on foot). Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Ruffed Grouse, 1; Bob-white, 8; Dove, 4; Flicker, 3; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 6; Blue Jay, 6; Carolina Chickadee, 10; Tufted Titmouse, 12; White-breasted Nuthatch, 9; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 12; Brown Creeper, 2; Winter Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 4; Robin, 4; Hermit Thrush, 1; Bluebird, 6; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2; Myrtle Warbler, 3; Meadowlark, 1; Cardinal, 6; Redpoll, 2; Pine Siskin, 11; Goldfinch, 2; Towhee, 7; Savannah Sparrow, 10; Junco 50; Tree Sparrow, 4; White-throated Sparrow, 12; Fox Sparrow, 4; Swamp Sparrow, 6; Song Sparrow, 3. Total species, 34; approximately 313 individuals. Seen in the same area Dec. 27, 2 Purple Finches; heard, 1 Barred Owl.

DODETTE W. GRINNELL.

SPARTANBURG, S. C. (Center of town to points 9 miles south and west; Lyman, Ezell woods, Duncan Park, Fairforest meadow; open farm lands 25%, town suburbs 20%, mixed woodlands 40%, fresh water pond and marshes 15%.) December 22. Clear; temp. 30°, rising to 60° F.; wind nw, 2-15 m.p.h.; five observers in 2 parties. Total hours, 12 (10 on foot, 2 in car); total miles, 30 (10 on foot, 20 by car). Turkey Vulture, 35; Black Vulture, 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 6; Killdeer, 34; Mourning Dove, 28; Flicker, 7; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 3; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Blue Jay, 60; Crow, 26; Carolina Chickadee, 30; Tufted Titmouse, 15; Brown Creeper, 1; Carolina Wren, 12; Mockingbird, 9; Brown Thrasher, 4; Hermit Thrush, 1; Bluebird, 12; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 35; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 26; Pipit, 46; Shrike, 6; Starling, 2,000 (est.); Orange-crowned Warbler, 6; Myrtle Warbler, 10; Palm Warbler, 4; English Sparrow, 38; Meadowlark, 25; Cowbird, 3; Cardinal, 28; Purple Finch, 11; Goldfinch, 22; Towhee, 34; Savannah Sparrow, 10; Junco, 43; Chipping Sparrow, 10; Field Sparrow, 32; White-throated Sparrow, 45; Swamp Sparrow, 6; Song Sparrow, 50. Total, 46 species; approximately 2,827 individuals. Observers: *Gabriel Cannon, Louisa Carlisle, Ruth Crick, Margaret Hammond, Dr. R. Rupp.*

STATESVILLE, (Iredell County), North Carolina. (Oakwood Cemetery Sanctuary 25%, mixed woodlands 25%, farm 35%, section of third Creek 15%.) Dec. 27—9:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Cloudy, stiff southwest wind, clearing at noon; temp. at start 38° F.; ground bare; six observers together; one, other territory. Total hours, 7 1-2 on foot; total miles, 7 on foot. Turkey Vulture, 20; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 3; Sparrow Hawk, 2; Bob-white, 9; Mourning Dove, 207; Flicker, 6; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 5; Phoebe, 2; Horned Lark, 200; Blue Jay, 30; Crow, 15; Carolina Chickadee, 18; Tufted Titmouse, 20; White-breasted Nuthatch, 3; Brown Creeper, 3; Carolina Wren, 10; Mockingbird, 10; Brown Thrasher, 3; Robin, 3; Hermit Thrush, 2; Bluebird, 80; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 27; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 25; Shrike, 10; Starling, 150; Myrtle Warbler, 18; Pine Warbler, 5; English Sparrow, 30; Meadowlark, 40; Purple Grackle, 14; Cardinal, 36; Goldfinch, 50; Towhee, 10; Junco, 175; Field Sparrow, 20. Total: 43 species; approximately 1,103 individuals.—*Jane Eliason, Nancy Eliason (compiler), Verne Floyd, W. G. Templeton, Ed Floyd, Tommy Long, "Pooche" Miller.*

WASHINGTON, N. C. (Same area as in previous counts; river shore 20%, field borders and hedge rows 60%, open fields 10%, mixed woods 10%). Dec. 23. Clear, heavy frost in A.M. and calm; wind SSE, 1-5 m.p.h. in P.M. Temp. 30° to 50° F.; ground bare, water open. Three observers together. Total hours, 8 on foot; total miles, 8 1-2 on foot. Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 2; Bald Eagle, 1; Marsh Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Killdeer, 1 (heard); (Least?) Sandpiper, 1; Herring Gull, 16; Mourning Dove, 4; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Flicker, 4; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Phoebe, 6; Blue Jay, 3; Crow, 16; Chickadee, 3; Tufted Titmouse, 4; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Carolina Wren, 10; Mockingbird, 10; Catbird, 2; Brown Thrasher, 1; Robin, 87; Bluebird, 3; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 4; Shrike, 1; Starling, 20; Myrtle Warbler, 68; Palm Warbler, 5; English Sparrow, 12; Meadowlark, 132; Red-wing, 1,000 (est.); Purple Grackle, 25 (est.); Cardinal, 6; Goldfinch, 10; Towhee, 4; Junco, 19; Chipping Sparrow, 23; Field Sparrow, 15; White-throated Sparrow, 52; Fox Sparrow, 4; Swamp Sparrow, 5; Song Sparrow, 14. Total, 44 species, approximately 1,612 individuals.—*Mrs. Mary Shelburne Crawford, Mrs. E. M. Brown, Joe Biggs.*

WILMINGTON, New Hanover County, N. C. (Second Christmas Count in area; Wrightsville Beach and Sound, Masonboro and Greenville Sounds, Winter Park, Greenfield Lake. Mixed pine and deciduous woodland 70%; pasture 5%; lake 10%; beach and salt marsh 15%). Dec. 28, dawn to dusk. Clear to partly cloudy. Wind moderate south and SW increasing to 16 m.p.h. in afternoon. Temp 49° to 71° F., mean 60°. Ground bare; water open. Eighteen observers in 5 parties. Total hours 30 (on foot). Total miles, about 15 (on foot.) Common Loon, 1; Red-throated Loon, 4; Horned Grebe, 1; Pied-billed Grebe, 16; Greater Shearwater, 1; Gannet, 2; Double Crested Cormorant, 10; Great Blue Heron, 5; Ward's Heron, 1; American Egret, 12; Snowy Egret, 2; Louisiana Heron, 3; Little Blue Heron, 3; Green Heron, 3; Black-crowned Night Heron, 15; Mallard, 4; Wood Duck, 8; Ring-necked Duck, 89; Lesser Scaup Duck, 3; Bufflehead Duck, 26; Red-breasted Merganser, 34; Turkey Vulture, 1; Black Vulture, 2; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Bald Eagle, 1; Osprey, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 5; Bob-white, 1; Clapper Rail, 2; Coot, 61; Killdeer, 43; Black-bellied plover, 4; Greater Yellow-legs, 1; Sanderling, 5; Herring Gull, 150 (est.); Ring-billed Gull 250 (est.); Laughing Gull, 10; Bonaparte's Gull, 3; Forster's Tern, 4; Common Tern, 16; Dovekie, 1; Mourning Dove, 9; Belted Kingfisher, 20; Flicker, 16; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 5; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 4; Eastern Kingbird, 1; Phoebe, 10; Blue Jay, 20; Crow, 35; Fish Crow, 2; Carolina Chickadee, 30; Tufted Titmouse, 45; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 23; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 25; Brown Creeper, 1; House Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 29; Short-billed Marsh Wren, 2; Mockingbird, 23; Catbird, 4; Brown Thrasher, 8; Robin, 88; Hermit Thrush, 11; Bluebird, 25; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 10; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 38; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 52; Cedar Waxwing, 20; Shrike, 10; Starling, 300 (est.); Blue-headed Vireo, 1; Myrtle Warbler, 500 (est.); Pine Warbler, 75 (est.); Palm Warbler, 1; Yellowthroat, 3; English Sparrow, 200 (est.); Meadowlark, 7; Red-wing, 185 (est.); Purple Grackle, 4; Cardinal, 23; Purple Finch, 15; Pine Siskin, 25; Goldfinch, 24; Towhee, 22; Savannah Sparrow, 10; Seaside Sparrow, 1; ~~Junco~~ Junco, 250 (est.); Chipping Sparrow, 50 (est.); Field Sparrow, 1; White-throated Sparrow, 200 (est.); Fox Sparrow, 14; Swamp Sparrow, 8; Song Sparrow, 100 (est.). Total species observed, 97; individuals 3402. The estimates of individuals are extremely conservative. Observers: *Sandy McCulloch, George Williams, Bill Craft, John Carr, John Trott, Jr., Bob Holmes III, Dr. Thos. Hall, Jim Smith, Steve Smith, Ruth Loman, Anne Blackwell Payne, Rev. K. R. Wheeler, Helen Lover-*

ing, Mrs. W. C. Mebane, Claud McAllister, Mrs. Sibbel Turnbull, Cecil Appleberry, Mrs. Cecil Appleberry (compiler).

NOTES:—*Horned Grebe* (B.H., J. T., S. McC.), with 30x telescope from bridge next to Wrightsville Beach. *Greater Shearwater* (Mrs. Turnbull), at drawbridge over inland waterway at Wrightsville Sound; made no attempt to swim; seemed in distress; watched it for several minutes before going to lunch; was gone when she returned.) *Gannet* (B. H.); flying parallel to Wrightsville Beach, about 1-8 mile out; 30x telescope; seen also by J. T. and Mrs. A. Another seen later by S. McC. and T. H. Dead imm. specimen picked up on beach by B. C. and J. C. *Ward's Heron*, first called to my attention on Greenfield Lake by Mary Baker; I was with Dr. Hall on Dec. 15 when he definitely identified it as a Ward's Heron; on Dec. 28, B. C., J. C., and J. T. reported a Ward's Heron at the Lake; seen later on same day by J. T., C. A. and myself. *Forster's Tern* (B. H.), Wrightsville Sound; black spot behind eye, silvery primaries, med. size, reddish bill; observed at close range with 8x32 glasses. *Dovekie* (Mrs. Turnbull); has had live ones in her hand at Rockport, Mass.; this bird was observed at close range, flying back of the Babies Hospital at Wrightsville Sound; in winter plumage, back and head jet black, wings spotted with white; very rapid wing beat. *Eastern Kingbird* (T. H.), swamp at Winter Park; seen at 15 ft. with 4x20 Zeiss glass; white belly, slate colored tail with white band; Mrs. John Juben, of E. Millstone, N. Y., had called me on Dec. 23, to report that she had seen them in North Carolina that day, said she saw 1 and then a flock. *Blue-headed Vireo* (B. H., J. T.), observed for five minutes at close range; sluggish movements; slate colored head, sulphury sides, conspicuous eye ring.

On Dec. 29 the following were observed, confirming part of the official count on the 28th: Bald Eagle, 1; American Bittern, 1; Forster's Tern, 10; Common Tern, 10; Greater Shearwater, 1; Ward's Heron, 1; Red-breasted Merganser, 5; American Merganser, 1; Bonaparte's Gull, 65; Red-backed Sandpiper, 10; Oyster Catcher, 1; Savannah Sparrow, 2; Seaside Sparrow, 2; American Scoter, 3; Brown Pelican, 2; Royal Tern, 5; Baldpate, 3; Catbird, 2; Winter Wren, 1; Mississippi Kite (T. H. at Masonboro Inlet), 1; Green Heron, 1; Wood Duck, 7. EDNA LANIER APPLEBERRY.

WINDOM, N. C., (farms of L. H. Hutchins, Mack Silver, Mrs. C. P. Gibson, and adjacent territory; open farmland 50%, white pine woodland 2%, pastures 18%; deciduous forests 30%).—Dec. 21; 8 A. M. to dusk. Cloudy all day; temp. 30° to 42° F.; wind from east, 25 m.p.h. Four observers in two parties. Total hours 16; total miles 16 (all on foot). Cooper's Hawk, 1; Mourning Dove, 5; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Phoebe, 2; Blue Jay, 7; Crow, 60; Chickadee, 10; Tufted Titmouse, 3; Carolina Wren, 11; Robin, 1; Bluebird, 18; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Starling, 4; English Sparrow, 142; Cardinal, 25; Goldfinch, 35; Red-eyed Towhee, 1; ~~Junco~~ Junco, 71; Field Sparrow, 35; Song Sparrow, 26. Total: 20 species; 460 individuals.—Rheba Hughes, Paul Hughes, Roosevelt Hughes, and James Hutchins.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., Reynolda, City watershed, parks, area surrounding City; woodland 45%; open fields 45%; pasture land 5%; water 5%. Dec. 26-7:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Cloudy in morning, clearing in afternoon. Temp. 35°-59°. Calm to light winds. Ground moist. Six parties, 17 observers. Total hours, 29. Miles by foot, 30, by car 50. Great Blue Heron, 1; Canada Goose, 12; Mallard, 4; Black Duck, 5; Ring-necked Duck, 20; Bufflehead, 1; Turkey Vulture, 3; Black Vulture, 5; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 3; Cooper's Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 84; Killdeer, 10; Mourning Dove, 25; Belted Kingfisher, 2; Flicker, 11; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 2; Red-headed Woodpecker, 8; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 5; Blue Jay, 42; Crow, 50; Carolina Chickadee, 40; Tufted Titmouse, 24; White-breasted Nuthatch, 7; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 5; Brown Creeper, 8; Carolina Wren, 21; Mockingbird, 26; Robin, 1; Hermit Thrush, 5; Bluebird, 29; Golden-

crowned Kinglet, 101; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 7; Cedar Waxwing, 10; Shrike, 3; Starling, 421, (est.); Myrtle Warbler, 9; Pine Warbler, 3; English Sparrow, 196, (est.); Meadowlark, 22; Purple Grackle, 64; Cardinal, 80; Pine Siskin, 58; Goldfinch, 115; Red-eyed Towhee, 17; Junco, 205; Field Sparrow, 110; White-throated Sparrow, 101; Fox Sparrow, 1; Song Sparrow, 100. Total: 51 species; approximately 2026 individuals.—James L. Stephenson, William L. Anderson, Jr., Edwin B. Anderson, Rev. Douglas Rights, Burton Rights, Graham Rights, Fred Stovall, Donald Stovall, George Parrish, Robert H. Witherington (Compiler), Fred S. Hill, Jr., Robert N. White, Orville White, Charles Babcock, Jr., James Spaugh, Larry Prevost, Henry Magie.

N. C. B. C. Has Field Trip to Lake Mattamuskeet

ETTA SCHIFFMAN, Greensboro, N. C.

Over seventy members of the North Carolina Bird Club went on the field trip at the Mattamuskeet Migratory Wildfowl Refuge, in Hyde county, North Carolina, on November 16 and 17. Many spent Friday night, January 15, at the refuge, but some arrived Saturday. Our group stopped several times on the way to get good looks at some of the birds, notably a Redtailed Hawk sitting in a tree right at the edge of the road. Once we were surprised to see a Cooper's Hawk fly out of a large hole in a tree, an unusual place for a hawk. When we were just a few miles from Mattamuskeet, we stopped to watch a huge flock of Tree Swallows circling over a meadow, while several flights of Red-wings passed overhead.

Lake Mattamuskeet is a large fresh water lake which is quite shallow, being scarcely more than two feet deep at any place. It occupies most of the 50,000 acres of the national refuge on which it is located. Although owned and operated by the federal government as a refuge for migratory waterfowl and other wildlife, hunting is permitted on about 10,000 acres of it during the hunting seasons, which seems to make a mockery of the name "refuge." Some of us had difficulty in finding accommodations because the deer season was just opening, and the place was swarming with deer hunters. The Mattamuskeet Lodge, where the majority of the bird club members stayed, is owned by the government, and is leased by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mann. At one time it was a pumping station used in an attempt to drain the shallow lake and use the land for cultivation. Now it has been made into a de-luxe lodge, with super de-luxe meals, and the tall smoke stack is used for a watch tower.

Saturday evening, November 17, an informal meeting was held at the Lodge, with William Joyner, president of the Rocky Mount Bird Club, presiding. W. W. Watson, of Lake Landing, Hyde County, welcomed the group and gave a description of the Mattamuskeet region. Talks were made by the N.C.B.C. president, Mrs. O. F. Jensen, of Chapel Hill; vice-president, Bob Wolff, of Goldsboro; and vice-president, Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, of Wilmington. Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green, of Raleigh, gave a brief sketch of the history of New Holland and the establishment of the Mattamuskeet waterfowl refuge. Miss Clara Hearne, former N.C.B.C. president, of Roanoke Rapids, discussed the N.C.B.C. nature program; and vice-president, Bob Wolff, of Goldsboro, after some remarks on binoculars and telescopes, gave the schedules for the various field trips by truck and by boat, the boat trips being planned for the vicinity of the Pea Island Refuge, and on the Pamlico sound. A distinguished guest was Alexander Sprunt, Jr., of Charleston, S. C., representative of the National Audubon Society, who gave a short address on what that group is doing to save nearly extinct bird species like the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, the Whooping Crane, and the California Condor.

Of course, the real high lights of the whole affair were the field trips. At sunrise, on both Saturday and Sunday, the hardier members climbed to the top of the

tower to watch the birds on the lake wake up. The field trips committee, composed of state chairman Tom Odom, of Chapel Hill, Bob Wolff and Bill Joyner, had provided a 20 power telescope, through which close-up observations were made of Canada Geese, Whistling Swans, Mallards, and Pintails. Imagine the thrill the observers on the tower received when a flock of Canada Geese flew up from the lake and came close by us at eye level.

A total of 90 species of birds were observed at Mattamuskeet, including, among others, American Egret, American Bittern, Pileated and Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, and a White-eyed Vireo (the latter by T. Odum, Frey, and Yeatman). Good views were obtained of mature Bald Eagles. The numbers of geese, estimated by refuge manager Willie G. Cahoon at 2,500, and swans, estimated, at 1,500 were much fewer than noted in previous N.C.B.C. field trips to Mattamuskeet in January 1941 and January 1942. This is probably due to the fact that, in November, many had not yet arrived for their winter stay. Three or four Snow Geese were seen. Pintails, estimated at 2,000, were by far the most abundant ducks at this time. Many of the observers got to see some of the deer which were abundant on the refuge.

One of our big thrills was when Alexander Sprunt stopped the truck with our group and pointed to an Arkansas Kingbird sitting on a telephone wire. Our group, including Joyner, Shaftesbury and numerous others, got a good look at this bird which is apparently extending its winter range eastward. As we watched, the kingbird flew up from the wire several times to catch insects, and paid no attention to his audience, which included not only the bird clubbers, but a group of puzzled pickaninnies in the yard of a cabin across the road.

We certainly appreciate the good job of planning for this trip and all of the arrangements made by the N.C.B.C. field trip committee under the leadership of Tom Odum.

News of the Local Clubs

HICKORY BIRD CLUB: The November meeting was held on the evening of the fourteenth, with Mrs. George Fuller as hostess. The hostess read a letter and a magazine article by Mrs. Athos Menaboni, the wife of the Atlanta, Ga., bird artist, who has a very interesting home and grounds, the latter including a sanctuary and a private aviary, to furnish live birds models for Menaboni's paintings. J. Weston Clinard traced the history of "Bird Watching," from its earliest beginnings to its present scientific status. The round-table discussion brought forth interesting observations on the return of local winter resident birds.

Bird songs from records and from the hosts' canary greeted the members on Thursday evening, December 12th, at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Geo. Bisanar. The hostess gave a talk on bird feeding, and several bird stories were read. It was noted that Pipits had been observed on the outskirts of the city. The round-table discussion centered on observations on winter residents and some of the more timid permanent residents which had been seen coming to the feeding stations.

J. WESTON CLINARD, *President.*

PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB: At the regular November meeting, held in the Science building at Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, on the evening of the 21st, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Perrett gave discussions of woodpeckers, and showed colored slides and prepared skins which were loaned by Harry Davis, director of the North Carolina Museum, at Raleigh. Miss Etta Schiffman gave an interesting report of the North Carolina Club's field trip which thirteen mem-

bers of the Piedmont Bird Club attended at the Lake Mattamuskeet Migratory Waterfowl Refuge, on November 16 and 17. Officers for 1947 were elected.

The annual Christmas dinner meeting was held on Friday evening, December 13th, at Grace Methodist Church, in Greensboro. After the dinner, group singing was conducted by Miss Louise Maxwell. Reports of the retiring president and other officers were given. A bird quiz and contests were conducted, after which the new officers were presented, and some colored moving pictures of birds were shown.

WINSTON-SALEM BIRD CLUB: Our garden clubs are holding "bird meetings." Jim Stephenson showed colored slides; Henry Magie spoke on "studying, befriending, and appreciating your birds." School talks continue. Our four organized bird sanctuaries are being maintained, and two new "block sanctuaries" have been established.

The Christmas count developed increased interest, and the total of 51 species exceeds our previous best. Our Secretary, Robert Witherington, added considerable skill in taking and summarizing the count for publication.

We are all delighted with the new "Audubon Bird Guide," published last November. The 48 colored plates, and the aids to identification are big helps.

HENRY MAGIE, *President.*

Field Notes and News

CHARLOTTE, N. C.: In the late afternoon of November 6, I observed a Catbird here. It was in shadow and sunlight, and my view was excellent.

BEATRICE B. POTTER.

GREENSBORO, N. C.: A Golden-wing Warbler was observed with 6 Nine Warblers, on August 25th, 1946, on a feeding tray outside my window.

GEO. A. SMITH.

HORNED LARKS AT ASHEVILLE: About 12 Prairie Horned Larks, probably permanent residents, have been observed at the Asheville-Henderson airport, twelve miles from Asheville, all through December.

E. ANNETTE HINKE.

GREENSBORO, N. C.: On December 26, I observed 2 Western Palm Warblers feeding in low shrubbery on the grounds of a local school. The constant flipping of the tail was noted, and I got good views to check the characteristic field marks.

OSCAR H. PARIS.

WESTERN TANAGER REPORTED IN N. C.: I wish to make a belated report of a find I made at Waynesville, Haywood county, N. C., in June 1944. My wife and I had quite a thrill seeing a pair of Western Tanagers here in North Carolina.

W. G. TEMPLETON, Statesville, N. C.

RALEIGH, N. C.: Waterfowl are beginning to show up in numbers. At Lake Raleigh and Johnson, on November 24, saw an estimated 200 ducks, three-fourths of them being Ring-neck, the next numbers Lesser Scaup. (Nov. 26, 1946.)

DAVID L. WILSON.

CANADA GEESE ON THE YADKIN: Canada Geese on the 6 mile waterfowl refuge along the Yadkin river showed an estimated total of 4,000 at one time. Limited hunting has been permitted with a total estimated bag of 200, or about 5% of the total, which is considered well within reason.

HENRY MAGIE, Winston-Salem,

DO YOU HAVE PURPLE FINCHES? Mrs. O. F. Jensen, Chapel Hill, N. C., has banded hundreds of Purple Finches during the past five years, and is interested in securing distribution data regarding Purple Finches in the southern states. Do you have Purple Finches now in your locality. Drop Mrs. Jensen a card with your notes. And how about noting your last observation of Purple Finches this spring, and sending the record to Mrs. Jensen.

WHITE-TAILED KITE REPORTED FROM DAVIE CO., N. C.: I wish to report that on November 21, my sister saw a White-tailed Kite. It was in Davie county, one or two miles from the South Yadkin river, and was flying low over a field of what we thought was lespedeza. The White-tailed Kite is not mentioned in "Birds of North Carolina," but, according to "Birds of America," it breeds in South Carolina.

MISS CLARA KNOX, Salisbury, N. C.

SOUTHPORT, N. C.: Billy Bragaw, of Southport, reported a single Brown Pelican, on December 24. On December 23, he saw a Bald Eagle, on the river above Southport, carrying nesting material. He also reports having seen 3 Chuck-will's-Widow, a few days before Christmas, on the road from Southport to Orton Plantation. They were flushed from the road, about 6:30 P.M., and Bragaw approached within twenty-five feet of one in the light of the car before it left the ground.

NORMAN McCULLOCH, JR.

SOUTHPORT, N. C.: On December 27, George Williams saw a Sora Rail in a salt marsh. On the same date, we saw a Yellow-throat, one of several seen during our trip. On December 30th, we rode out to sea on a shrimper from Southport. Gannets were common, verifying again those seen on the Wilmington Christmas count. Here is a list of the species seen: Herring Gull, over 5,000 (est.); Ring-billed Gull, over 1,000 (est.); Laughing Gull, 10; Cormorant, 300-400; Common Tern, 75-100; Gannet, 125-150 (est.), only 3 immature; Red-breasted Merganser, 300-400; American Egret, 1. Only eight species, and, miralce of miracles, no English Sparrow.

GEORGE WILLIAMS AND NORMAN McCULLOCH, JR.

MOREHEAD CITY AND ATLANTIC BEACH, Carteret Co., N. C.: November 29, 1946; weather clear and warm. Observed 40 species, including: Horned, and Pied-billed Grebes; Double-crested Cormorant; Great Blue Heron; Mallard; Black Duck; Pintail; Buffle-head Duck; Hooded Merganser; Turkey Vulture; Bald Eagle (the first I'd gotten there.—Wolff); Sparrow Hawk; Lesser Yellow-legs; Herring Gull (lots of them); Common Tern; Mourning Dove; Belted Kingfisher; Phoebe; Tree Swallow; Crow; Fish Crow; Carolina Wren; Mockingbird; Brown Thrasher; Bluebird; Shrike; Starling; Myrtle Warbler; English Sparrow; Meadowlark; Red-winged Blackbird; Purple Grackle; Cardinal; Goldfinch; Towhee; Sea-side Sparrow; Carolina Junco; Field, White-throated, and Song Sparrows. Observers: MR. LONG (N. C. Warden at Fort Macon), GRAY MATTOX, TOMMY MEDLIN, DICKY WALLACE, BOB WOLFF.

CANADA GEESE AT WILDLIFE REFUGE AT ANSONVILLE, N. C.; Lockhart Gaddy's Wildlife Refuge, which was started near Ansonville in 1937 as a fish-pond, scarcely two acres in extent, has attracted perhaps 2,000 Canada Geese this present winter, and has attracted probably considerably more than that number of people who have visited the refuge to see the geese. Gaddy was thrilled when his few tamed geese, which were formerly used as decoys, attracted 9 wild geese to his lake in the fall of 1938. These were fed, and remained until March 20, 1939 (*The Chat* 1943, vol. VII, no. 1, p. 8-9). Each year Mr. Gaddy and his wife, Hazel Ross Gaddy, have been feeding increasing numbers of these feathered visitors. This year the United States Fish and Wildlife Service has taken over the major part of the

feeding, which was really becoming a problem with Mr. Gaddy, and is supplying approximately 25 bushels of corn a week. This, of course, does not supply all the feed needed by the hundreds of geese, but does supplement what feed they can forage from neighboring lakes and fields.

On Saturday, December 29, a group of North Carolina Bird Club members, including President Mrs. O. F. Jensen, and her husband, Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green, Miss Clara Hearne, Phillips Russell, and Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Shaftesbury, made a trip to the Gaddy refuge. We estimated that at that time there were about 1,000 Canada Geese. We saw also a Black Duck and a Ring-necked drake. We carried along the Piedmont Bird Club's new 20 power B. & L. coated lens telescope, which, Mrs. Green reported, Dr. S. enjoyed like a kid with a new toy. The next week, on Sunday, January 5, Mrs. S. and I made a trip through the rain to Ansonville, and had the thrill of seeing our first immature Blue Goose and our first Hutchins's Goose, the latter a reduced size, short-necked edition of the Canada Goose. (Authorities differ, but it seems possible that the goose which has for years been called Hutchins's Goose is really a larger sub-species, *Branta canadensis leucopareia*, the Lesser Canada Goose. See Kortright: *The Ducks, Geese and Swans of North America*, 1943, p. 94-ff.) An adult Blue Goose was seen on both trips, but it could scarcely be counted this year, since it had been banded and had its wing clipped a year ago. A half dozen Mallards, seen also the previous week, proved to be tamed specimens, and a couple of large, white geese, proved to be merely the domestic variety. Three beautiful Ring-necked Drakes and 2 ducks were seen on the February 5 trip. In spite of the dismal, drizzly weather, about twenty carloads of people were on hand to see the afternoon feeding, when the Geese came almost to our feet.

The refuge guest book lists hundreds of visitors, mostly from North Carolina and South Carolina, but many from other states, and Lockhart Gaddy and his wife extend a special invitation of all members of the North Carolina Bird Club to visit the refuge. It is located on a well kept sand clay road a half mile off U. S. highway 52, between Ansonville and Wadesboro, a short distance below Ansonville. Watch for the sign, "Lockhart Gaddy's Geese," or ask anyone in Ansonville.

ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY.

WILMINGTON, N. C. Late Fall Census: Here is a list taken in and around Wilmington on November 29. There are some late fall dates in it for North Carolina, such as the Curlew. (Wilmington, and especially the Lake Forest section has amazing possibilities for birds.) The area was the same as in the Christmas Census. The weather was overcast and rainy in the morning, clearing in the afternoon. Common Loon, 2; Pied-billed Grebe, 4; Cormorant, 6; Great Blue Heron, 3; American Egret, 5; Snowy Egret, 1; Louisiana Heron, 2; Little Blue Heron, 1; Black-crowned Night Heron, 3; Black Duck, 2; Wood Duck, 2; Ring-necked Duck, 60; Scaup, 90; Red-breasted Merganser, 2; Pigeon Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Clapper Rail, 10; Coot, 36; Black-bellied Plover, 9; Hudsonian Curlew, 1; Red-backed Sandpiper, 4; Sandpiper, 7; Herring and Ring-billed Gull, mixed, 3000 (the main mass of these gulls were on a distant shoal and were too far away to estimate the number of each species); Laughing Gull, 4; 2 medium sized Terns (probably common); Caspian Tern, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 3; Flicker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Carolina Chickadee, 15; Tufted Titmouse, 1; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 10; Brown Creeper, 1; House Wren, 1; Winter Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 8; Mockingbird, 11; Catbird, 1; Brown Thrasher, 2; Robin, 40; Hermit Thrush, 3; Bluebird, 12; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 37; Starling, 30; Myrtle Warbler, 200; Pine Warbler, 7; Western Palm Warbler, 1; English Sparrow, 150; Meadowlark, 5; Red-wing, 100; Boat-tailed Grackle, 3; Purple Grackle, 4; Cardinal, 1; Goldfinch, 10; Towhee, 2; Savannah Sparrow, 5; Carolina Junco, 75; Chipping Sparrow, 1; White-throated Sparrow, 50; Fox Sparrow, 1; Song Spar-

row, 50. Total: 64 species; 4106 individuals. Observers: MRS. CECIL APPLEBERRY AND BOB HOMES, III.

BOGUE BANKS, (Carteret County,) N. C.: Following are some of my late summer and early fall observations on Bogue Banks from August 1 through August 21, 1946, which might be of special interest: Audubon's Shearwater, August 21, Fort Macon; Brown Pelican, not unusual from Aug. 1-21; Cormorant; a Great-Blue Heron was seen feeding in the surf, a new sight for me; American and Snowy Egrets; Louisiana Heron; Green Heron; Bald Eagle; Clapper Rail; Semi-palmated Plover, seen daily after Aug. 6; Black-bellied Plover, Aug. 20-21; Ruddy Turnstone, seen daily from Aug. 2; Least Sandpiper, Aug. 21; Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Aug. 3; Western Sandpiper, one found dead on Aug. 4; Spotted Sandpiper, seen daily from Aug. 6; Greater Yellow-legs, Aug. 1; Lesser Yellow-legs, Aug. 21; Willet, Aug. 2; Knot, June 15, probably very late spring migrants; Hudsonian Curlew, Aug. 1-2; Sanderling, seen daily in great numbers; Ring-billed, Herring, and Laughing gulls; Gull-billed Tern, first seen on Aug. 6, becoming more common toward end of the month; Caspian Tern, Aug. 21; Black Tern, very common; Royal Tern, several pair seen daily; Least Tern, very common; Common Tern, very common; Black Skimmer, seen often, but many had evidently gone south; Dove, Swift, Kingfisher, Purple Martin, Barn Swallow, all very common; one Tree Swallow was seen on Aug. 2, a very early date; Painted Bunting, last seen on Aug. 5; and Common Crows and Fish Crows. Solitary sandpipers were seen also but not so early as the early 1946 date for Mt. Olive (July 23, 1 pair). Of course, there were several other common species such as Boat-tailed and Purple Grackles, and others. BOB HOLMES, III.

WINDOM, (Yancey County), N. C.: On September 8, 9, and 10, 1946, we saw here the biggest flocks of migrating Nighthawks in my memory. There must have been 500 of them. They were flying around in circles and moving, it appeared, in a southerly course. The irregular white spot on the bottom of the wing was a sure identification mark. I have never known or heard of a Nighthawk nesting in this county.

Many flocks of Swallows of different varieties have been regularly seen in and near Burnsville in their southward migration throughout the month of August during late years including the present year. They usually stay a day or two to rest and feed. They perch on telephone wires and are almost invariably seen on foggy mornings when visibility is poorest. There is constant movement during the day; while some are returning to their perches others are taking to the air. The cliff, bank, and rough-winged varieties seem to be most abundant. Some flocks have an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 individuals. They are a sight wonderful to behold!

So far as I can ascertain, there are only two records of Pied-billed Grebes found in Yancey County. On September 7, 1944, I saw an immature bird, which had been found on the grounds of the Burnsville High School by a small grandson of I. F. McCourry. The lad kept the bird for about two weeks when it was stolen by a passerby. During last August, Mr. and Mrs. Moore Griffith of Windom brought a very young Pied-billed Grebe to me for identification. They fed it for two or three weeks and released it. Neither of these birds was within a half-mile of any standing water. It seems strange to me that they were found in such places.

Last July Mr. Rathey Stephens, of Windom, called my attention to the nest of a Whip-poor-will (if we can say that a Whip-poor-will builds a nest). He and I visited the nest forwith. There was only one egg on a bare leaf. The next day there were two eggs and the bird began immediately the process of incubation. Two youthful companions of mine, Roosevelt Hughes, 13, and Paul Hughes, 11, went one day with me to see the nest. Roosevelt, with nothing to interfere with his vision, stood and gazed for a full minute before he saw the bird, which was being pointed out to him. The bird sat motionless, with a bare slit in its eyes for vision. Scattered all

around the nest were mottled-colored flakes of rotten wood of a color practically identical with that of the Whip-poor-will. Never have I observed as complete a camouflage. The period of incubation was 17 days. The next day after the young were hatched the shells of the eggs were at the nest but the young birds and the old were not to be seen.

On November 27, 1946, while I was camping on Little Buck Creek I saw three Pileated Woodpeckers—large, fine specimens of this giant woodcarver with their jaunty red crests—the largest number I ever saw together. This handsome denizen of the forests is very scarce in our section of the State. A year ago I found one of these birds that had been killed by a hunter near here. I chided him gently about killing it. He denied the act. Several years ago a local hunter of this place brought in one of these birds that he had killed. I called his attention to the fact that killing these birds is prohibited by law. He replied that it was a game bird, thinking that it was a woodcock. I explained what a woodcock really is. So, protection of our birds is to a great extent a problem of education.

JAMES HUTCHINS.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY, N. C.: *Summer 1946*: A brief summary of noteworthy data from the field books of members of the Mecklenburg Audubon Club.



Nest of Yellow-crowned Night Heron
Near Pineville, Mecklenburg Co., N. C.
(Photograph by B. R. Chamberlain)

or three miles of the South Carolina line, below Charlotte. The nesting site was protected by a large fallen tree trunk in rather dense woods. The surrounding ground was black and boggy and obviously had been flooded during the past fall

Yellow-crowned Night Heron. A nest was found on May 18th, 1946, in a pine tree approximately 40 feet above the ground, and eight to ten feet from the trunk. The tree was some fifty feet from a ploughed field in dense woods bordering Big Sugar Creek, three miles north of Pineville. When found, the last egg of a set of four was just hatching. The young were covered with patches of greyish down. They were observed at close range until they were ready to leave the nest by Moon and Layton, who climbed the tree repeatedly. Usually one of the adults returned to a nearby tree and occasionally to the same tree while the nest was being observed. All four of the eggs were accounted for by large sections of shell found directly under the nest, showing that they were simply pushed over the edge rather than being carried away. Numerous visits were made to this nest. City records for the occurrence of this heron were obtained when an individual bird was repeatedly seen to fly along the banks of Briar Creek each evening (7:30-8:00 o'clock), and one morning (6:00 o'clock) during the second week of June. The morning flight was down creek, toward the Catawba River. The evening flight was up creek.—Clarkson, Layton, Moon, Chamberlain.

Black Vulture. On April 22, 1946, two baby vultures, covered with dirty brownish down, and estimated to be not over two days old, were found on Briar Creek within two miles of the South Carolina line, below Charlotte. The nesting site was protected by a large fallen tree trunk in rather dense woods. The surrounding ground was black and boggy and obviously had been flooded during the past fall

and winter rains. A single parent bird was seen leaving the site.—*Brownlee, Chamberlain, Layton, and Moon.*

Red-shouldered Hawk. On April 27, 1946, Layton and Moon found a nest with three young, about 35 feet above the ground, in a large birch tree on Big Sugar Creek, approximately ten miles south of Charlotte. On May 18th, the young left the nest, leaving behind them a small dead snapping turtle.

Whip-poor-will. One egg was found on May 25th, 1946, within a hundred yards of Big Sugar Creek, a few miles north of Pineville, N. C. There was no appreciable depression; the egg was placed on oak leaves and it appeared quite fresh when found. On June 15, the bird had hatched and was probably two days old. The thick down was orange-yellow. The young bird was about one foot away from the nest, probably having been kicked there by the parent for protection as it flew up.—*Layton, Moon and Chamberlain.*

Yellow-throated Vireo. May 28, 1946, Hon and Layton found a nest with young in a low tree overhanging an infrequently used dirt road within the Charlotte city limits. The parent was seen feeding the young.

Parula Warbler. Mrs. Edwin O. Clarkson reported continuous observation of a Parula Warbler throughout June and July in her garden at Winghaven, Charlotte. Apparently the same bird was seen repeatedly. No evidence of nesting was observed.

Ovenbird. Hon and Layton watched an ovenbird feed a single, and tailless, young bird on May 28, 1946. Location, approximately two miles southeast of the Charlotte city limits.

Kentucky Warbler. Two nests were found. The first on June 5th, had four young. On the 8th these had left the nest. On the 8th, a second nest with one egg and two young was located. Both nests were on the ground and were surprisingly large. Site: a rather heavy patch of woods along Briar Creek near the crossing at Commonwealth Avenue. The old birds stayed in the vicinity and kept up a continuous chirping that sounded very much like the note of the cardinal. —*Hon, Layton, Clarkson, Moon, Chamberlain.*

Grasshopper Sparrow. First seen this year on April 1st. Adults were repeatedly observed carrying food but no nests were located until August 25th, when one abandoned nest of this season, and one nest with three young were found. Both of these were located 12 miles south of Charlotte. The young were estimated to be four days old.—*Chamberlain, Layton.*

Henslow's Sparrow. First arrived this year April 1st. Adult observed carrying food but no nest found

B. R. CHAMBERLAIN, Charlotte, N. C.

(Aug. 27, 1946.)

RECORDS OF NORTH CAROLINA FAUNA: The records and files of the Birds of North Carolina, which have been kept during the many years past by the late Dr. C. S. Brimley, will be maintained and kept up to date along with the other North Carolina Faunal Records, Insect Records, etc., of the Division of Entomology, North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C. These records date back some sixty years and it was from them that the authors of "*The Birds of North Carolina*," and others, have drawn copiously much of their source material. These records will be kept for the benefit and use of any one interested in consulting them. In order to add to this vast store of information, any bird notes, records, nesting records and notes, seasonal observations, etc., should be sent in for recording. We have a good start on bird nesting records and need more. Send them in to David L. Wray, Division of Entomology, N. C. Dept. of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C.

With the Editor

BIRD SANCTUARY ESTABLISHED IN CHARLOTTE: At the November 19th meeting of the Mecklenburg Audubon Society, Mrs. B. D. Hendrix announced that Oakland Cemetery, at Charlotte, N. C., has been established as a bird sanctuary.

DO YOU NEED SOME MARTIN GOURDS? A member of the North Carolina Bird Club informs us that he has recently received a communication from George Wagoner Gyles, P. O. Box 102, Blacksville, S. C., who can supply martin grounds, (and other types, too), at 10 cents each, F.O.B. Blacksville, S. C.

GOING TO FLORIDA? WANT AN EXTRA PASSENGER? If you are taking a car to Florida for the Audubon Bird Tours at Okeechobee or to Florida Bay (out of Miami), for almost any date in February or March, and want an extra passenger who will help pay the expenses, drop a line to Miss Virginia R. B. Pickell, 221 West Park Drive, Raleigh, N. C.

BERT HARWELL TO LECTURE AT SILER CITY: Bert Harwell, National Audubon lecturer, will give two entertainments at Siler City, on Monday, March 3rd. The Monday afternoon lecture, "Adventures in Nature," will be given for the school children, at 1:00 o'clock in the Elder Theatre, and is made possible by the sponsorship by Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Carroll, and by the courtesy of Mr. Frazier, who has given free use of his theatre. The evening lecture, "Music of the Out-of-Doors," is open to the public, and will be given at 8:00 o'clock, at the high school auditorium, with an admission fee of 50 cents. This is sponsored by the Siler City Garden Club.

NEED BIRD SUPPLIES, HOMES, FEEDERS, FOODS, BOOKS, ADVICE?—Drop a card to Mrs. W. B. Simons, 2324 Briarwood Road, Charlotte 4, N. C., for her interesting illustrated lists of equipment and supplies for both caged and wild birds. Mrs. Simons has been a Scout Leader, and she believes that more leaders and teachers would include more bird study in their programs if it did not look so complicated, knew how to begin and where to find material simple enough for the beginner. She has a variety of books, bird pictures, identification cards, and other supplies for Junior Bird Study. She aims, further, to be a source of information for beginners, and to have on hand at all times supplies for protecting and conserving birds.

JUNIOR AUDUBON CLUBS: School teachers and others interested in the organization of Junior Audubon Clubs, if you are not already familiar with the excellent material provided by the National Audubon Society, should by all means make use of the aids—color plates of birds, outline drawings, illustrated bird leaflets, membership tags, and the Junior Audubon magazine, *News on the Wing*, which is published four times a year and contains information on bird houses, feeders, bird calendars, field trips and club and assembly programs. The junior clubs are organized on an international scale, including Canada, United States, and Mexico, and so must be supplemented by material of state and local interest, but teachers of elementary grades, and junior and senior high school will find it very valuable. Ten or more students and an adult advisor constitutes a Audubon Junior Club, and the annual dues are ten cents a member. Clubs renewing from year to year receive different material each year. Proper application must be made to the National Audubon Society. Teachers who are interested should mail a card or letter to the National Audubon Society, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York 28, N. Y., with a request for application and for the folder, "Let's Form an Audubon Junior Club." And how about passing this information along to your friends who might be interested.

Some N. C. B. C. Aims for 1947

1. Increase membership to at least 1,000 so that we may enlarge and increase the value of *The Chat* through more material of interest to both the layman and the scientist.
2. Increase our educational program, our Audubon Junior Clubs, for it is the youth who will soon have charge of our Conservation programs, working for State Parks and for more sanctuaries where our bird life will be intelligently preserved.
3. Take advantage of field trips, and publish data as to where and when our interesting species may be seen.
4. Cooperate with the State Parks with the idea of the eventual establishment of a Trailside Museum to educate visitors, a program which has been so successful in other states.
5. Work toward the idea of incorporating, so that we may receive legacies and gifts from income. The latter gifts are deductible from income for tax purposes, up to a total of 10% for the North Carolina state tax and 15% for the federal income tax. In this way, one can "eat his cake"—by giving to his favorite charity, "and have it too." What an educational field this will open!
6. Try to obtain and encourage more Southern bird banders to study and collect data, especially on Southern birds. Northern bird banders beg for Southerners to catch their birds and complete some of their data.

MRS. O. F. JENSEN, *President.*

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB



C. S. BRIMLEY, 1863-1946



H. H. BRIMLEY, 1861-1946



T. GILBERT PEARSON, 1873-1946

TENTH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

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The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

DR. ARCHIE D. SHAFESBURY, *Editor*

Woman's College of University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.

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OFFICERS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

PRESIDENT	Mrs. O. F. Jensen, Chapel Hill
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MEMBERS AT LARGE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	Miss Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids; Mrs. Cecil M. Appleberry, Wilmington.

North Carolina Bird Club is Ten Years Old

On March 6, 1937, at Raleigh, North Carolina, seventy-five people gathered from all over North Carolina to form a state wide society for ornithology. The meeting was called by the Raleigh Bird Club, and was opened by Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green, president of the Raleigh Bird Club. Dr. J. J. Murray, who for many years has edited *The Raven*, bulletin of the Virginia Society of Ornithologists, was a guest at the meeting and described the organization and work of the Virginia club. At this meeting a constitution was formulated and adopted, organizing "The North Carolina Bird Club," provision being made for the publication of a bulletin to be called *The Chat*. Mrs. Green appointed as a nominating committee: Harry T. Davis and C. H. Bostian of Raleigh, Miss Nancy Eliason of Statesville, A. D. Shaftesbury of Greensboro, and J. J. Sigwald of Wilson. At the afternoon session, Harry Davis presented the report of this committee, which was adopted, and the following were elected as officers: President, C. S. Brimley, N. C. Dept. of Agriculture, Raleigh; Vice-President, Francis H. Craighill, Church of the Good Shepherd, Rocky Mount; Vice-President, Nellie F. Sanborn, president Southern Pines Bird Club, Southern Pines; Vice-President, Ethel F. Finster, Asheville Teachers College, Asheville; Secretary-Treasurer-Editor, Dr. John H. Grey, Jr., West Raleigh Presbyterian Church, Raleigh.

On May 6, 1937, the final date set for acceptance of charter members, there were 102 charter members, representing North Carolina and six other states and the District of Columbia. The membership has steadily grown during the past ten years, and at present the N.C.B.C. has over 700 members, including representatives from 60 counties of North Carolina, besides 20 other states and the District of Columbia.

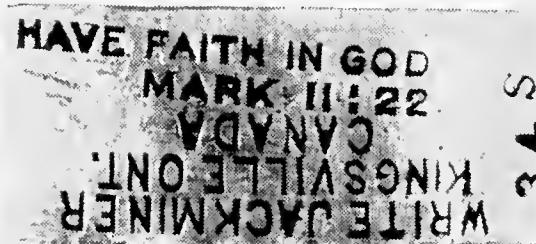
This issue of *The Chat* is intended to be a tribute to the efficient cooperative work of the officers and members of the North Carolina Bird Club during the past ten years. Following is a list of the presidents who have served the N.C.B.C., with the dates of their terms of office:

- 1937-1938, Dr. C. S. Brimley, Raleigh
- 1938-1939, The Rev. Francis H. Craighill, Rocky Mount .
- 1939-1941, Miss Claudia Hunter, Henderson
- 1941-1942, Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, Greensboro
- 1942, Miss Grace Anderson, Statesville
- 1942-1944, H. H. Brimley, Raleigh
- 1944-1946, Miss Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids
- 1946-, Mrs. O. F. Jensen, Chapel Hill.

To include the names of all those who have helped with the varied activities of the club during the ten years would take more space than is available here, but, without in the least neglecting the important work of the many who have helped with the work of our club, the writer would like to mention the important work of the first editor of *The Chat*, Dr. John H. Grey, who is now pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, at Charlottesville, Va. Dr. Grey, who was one of the Raleigh Bird Club group that lead in the organization of the North Carolina Bird Club, edited *The Chat* for nearly eight years, and was instrumental in establishing a high standard for the Club's official magazine, first in mimeographed form and then, after the first four years, in permanent printed form—an attractive publication in which all N.C.B.C. members could well take pride.

Observations from an Enthusiastic Bird Bander

MRS. OVE F. JENSEN



Bands such as the one in the accompanying illustration are a collector's item. Hunters are always eager to see when they have brought down a bird if by any chance it bears one of these Jack Miner bracelets. The one illustrated was recently given the writer by Willie G. Cahoon, biologist at the Mattamuskeet Game Refuge. It had been worn by a Canada Goose banded, you will note, at Kingsville, Ontario, Canada, by Jack Miner in the spring of 1934. Invariably his bands have a verse from the Bible on them, for he believed in letting the birds carry the gospel message far and wide.

In our country no private banding is permitted such as is done in Canada. Instead, the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of Interior issues permits to properly qualified persons, and furnishes official numbered aluminum bands of various sizes to fit the legs of different species of birds. These bands have an inscription "Notify Fish and Wildlife Service," with a number such as 34-68999, 34 being the serial number while 68999 is the bird's own individual one. All records are kept in Washington by the Fish and Wildlife Service which acts as a clearing house for all information regarding individual birds such as where banded, by whom, their travels, etc.

Two thousand such banders cooperate in this work of banding birds and carry on special studies. They may be found lying in wait at chimney openings on the tallest buildings, or at holes in the ground. They search the heavens and the dense jungles, for who knows where the secrets of bird life may be found. They pursue assiduously and undeviatingly the corroboration of their theories, but results often uncover unsuspected material.

In the early days, there was a rush to band great numbers of birds and this was important for much was learned of migration and routes used in their travels. As a result of this study, it was seen there were four main flyways used during migration. This has been of inestimable value in the strategic placement of bird and game refuges, and in the development of sounder policies for the conservation and protection of wild-life.

Backyard banders handling small birds are now coming into their own. Banding is a valuable tool for an intimate study of the life history of birds. For this purpose, colored bands furnished by the United States government are used in conjunction with the aluminum ones. From "trapping", their bird study leads them to broaden out into "watching." To know intimately several pairs of birds, their own private territories, their nesting activities, and their change of mates over the seasons, is to really know birds. Surprising marital infidelities have been uncovered. With the colored bands, repeated trapping is not necessary—one can tell at a glance just which individual is at hand. A perfect example of this kind of study is given for the song sparrow in Mrs. Margaret Nice's "Watcher at the Nest."

For a small illustration of what watching yields, an experience at my station may be of interest. Having attracted quite a few hummingbirds to come to some glass syrup tubes just outside my big window, I soon found them tame enough to allow me to approach to within one or two feet of them. The latter part of July the young were regular visitors, and I soon noticed that little line etchings such as the mother has on her throat were appearing. On August 6, I was startled to observe as one of these young birds lifted his head a brilliant spot, like an inset ruby, glisten from one side of the lower throat. By August 10, this spot had enlarged, and another small one had made its appearance on the other side of the throat. A second bird was seen about the same time with a much larger spot, exactly in the middle of the lower throat, looking like a ruby pendant. A third came about a week later showing a spot similar in size and in the same general location as with the first bird. What little I have seen here at my station, would lead me to conclude that there is no regularity of pattern in the development of the ruby throat in the male Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Unfortunately, migration soon took place and further observations were impossible.

Shortly afterward, I was in Washington, D. C., and asked Dr. Herbert Friedman, Curator of the National Museum of Natural History, if he had ever had the opportunity to see a young male hummingbird show signs of a ruby throat. He had not, but expressed great interest in the observations, remarking that he was a firm believer in the idea that many important contributions to science would come from the so-called "back-yard observer." Dr. Frederick Lincoln, Head of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Alexander Sprunt of the Audubon Society and our own Dr. C. S. and H. H. Brimley—none had noted this development. However, Mrs.

Edwin Clarkson of Charlotte, N. C., who attracts great numbers of hummingbirds, and whose work shows exceedingly close and careful observation, has corroborated my findings.

For a short time in 1946 I held the country's age record for both the Pine Warbler and the Summer Tanager. A station operating only since 1941 should be too young to furnish any age records of value. What it does reveal, however, is that we have few southern banders catching and observing southern birds. Banding has revealed some phenomenal information on the life span of birds, but banders in the North, where they so abound seem to hold most of the records.

There is a need for intelligent bird banding in the South, to trap the Northerners' birds and complete some of the records started by these operators; and to make a painstaking study of our own southern species. To become a bird bander, you must send in a request to Dr. Frederick C. Lincoln, Fish and Wildlife Service, Dept. of Interior, Washington, D. C. State the special study you wish to make, sending along also the names of two ornithologists who will vouch for your ability to identify birds correctly. Records sent in by careless operators, are of course, worthless. Persons with time and an ability to observe accurately would find making contributions to science in this way a most enjoyable hobby.

It has been well established that birds are repeatedly drawn to their nesting areas, but banding has also uncovered the fact that the wintering location has a strong attraction, too, for many species. Although our home is set deep in the woods and may look lonely and secluded, over 1,600 birds of 28 species, including 850 Purple Finches, have come in to be examined, recorded and banded since 1941. Return visits have been made—sometimes in several successive years and surprising as it may seem, sex records in many cases have had to be changed. Birds banded as females or immatures are indistinguishable in the case of Purple Finches, and in subsequent years many so recorded have returned with the beautiful rose colored plush so characteristic of the adult male.

Casually observing out of my large window, one would conclude that there were about 25 regular Purple Finch visitors this winter. Records, however, show that from December 3, 1946 to January 3, 1947 over 225 have been banded. During December it was interesting to note how few of the banded birds were left each morning, but in January the regular visitors included a considerable number with bands. This leads one to conclude that the big migration took place at my station in December, but that by January most of the birds remaining here were on

their Winter territory, and would not go farther South.

For a long time, migration has been a phenomenon which has challenged both the scientist and laymen. Food supply, amount of daylight, body or climatic changes, have all been advanced as possible factors, but as yet, no satisfactory explanation has been found. This year, to join in the search, I am weighing Purple Finches over and over again, to see whether a change in body weight may be involved. An attempt will be made to correlate the weights with time, weather and temperature factors. So far, some birds have weighed as little as 21.5 grams while the heaviest was 31.6 grams (1 ounce equals 28.4 gm.) If anything important is discovered, it will be published in a later issue of *The Chat*.

The Purple Finch is utterly fearless, and placing one in the heel of a sock preparatory to weighing is always a struggle to see which of us will win. Prying open the beak is sometimes necessary when a vulnerable spot on the hand is involved. Seeking to free him from the confines of the sock will often reveal he is just as vigorously clutching the side of it, making it difficult to shake him out. Most of them are so disdainful of such treatment, however, that they are often back within the hour. Finches captured over a period of years often come in seeming bored at having to repeat the whole process. How I wish these old friends could tell me of their travels! For travel they do. A bird bander in Boonton, N. J., has written me that her birds have made friends for her in 22 different states and Canada, including me in Chapel Hill.

Through banding we have learned that birds have a phenomenal ability to return to specific locations, no matter how hidden or remote. Of four Wood Thrushes banded in 1941, every one was recaptured here in the same trap in 1942, although it is said they travel as far as Nicaragua in Winter. A golden Summer Tanager banded as an immature came back the following year, a gorgeous crimson male. Gilbert Pearson assured us that these birds travel as far as Peru. What a thrill to have in your hand the same bird which was born in your garden, traveled who knows where, braved hunger, storm, countless enemies, and found his way back thousands of miles to a tiny woods station hardly discernible from the air. Another banded Tanager was recaptured three years later.

In the May 1946 issue of *The Chat* (vol. X, p. 5) the actual returns of birds at my station were given, so I shall do a bit of "randomizing." The nesting and wintering grounds for White-throated Sparrows have been proven to be more or less constant, but through banding, we have learned that rarely do they take the same path between these two points.

Banders located in this "between" area practically never recapture one of their own birds. When the White Throats arrive here, it is not too unusual to catch one back for the fourth year, and my records and observations lead me to conclude that this is their constant wintering territory. Up until now, January 25, 1947, I have had no ground traps operating this year, so my records are not up to date on ground feeding birds. However, I seem to have had a rather remarkable return on Juncos. Out of 80 handled, 10 have returned, while in "The Log of Tanager Hill," only two out of 4,652 banded were ever recaptured at their station. This may be due to their location being an "in between" point, while again mine may be a wintering territory. All these factors are important to take into consideration.

A curious observation is that Bluejays never bother my station except during the nesting season. The availability of food is probably the reason for locating their nests so near. Out of 11 Bluejays whose banding permitted a return, 4 have been recaptured, one having been banded during nesting in 1941, recaptured again in 1943, and again in 1945. As for Cardinals, 52 have been banded up until now, January, 1947, yet only one is ever seen with a band. They seem utterly disgusted with a feeding place that would think of capturing them, and never return. Myrtle Warblers have returned in surprising numbers. I have 16 returns, although I have banded only 245. Out of 18 Pine Warblers, 6 have returned over a period of years. Of 5 Hermit Thrushes, 2 have returned. Chipping Sparrows evidently are great returners, for of 49 banded, 11 have come back.

The Carolina Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, and Tufted Titmouse, have all stayed fairly well for residents, but I have been amazed at how short lived the Carolina Wren seems to be. At present, one pair is lasting well. At dusk the male gives a sharp call for his mate, and soon she will answer softly, and dash madly for the little wren house under the roof of the back porch—then he gayly pops in. In hot weather they have slept in a cloth clothespin bag on this same porch. This keeps them well out of the way of predators during the night. Had these birds not been banded, I would never have thought so many had disappeared, for a pair is usually to be seen around the place—yet banding has shown it is not the same pair at all.

As the years go by, there will be far more interesting material unfold at a station like mine. May I urge you to carefully examine all dead birds to see if they are an emissary of science and assist in the unlocking of Nature's secrets.

(Chapel Hill, N. C., Jan. 25, 1947.)

News of the Local Clubs

WINSTON-SALEM BIRD CLUB ANNOUNCES NEW SANCTUARY: The Winston-Salem Bird Club is proud to announce the formal organization of the Mills Home Bird Sanctuary, at Thomasville, with 500 acres, part woodland, with 300 acres farmland and streams, and, best of all, 550 cooperating girls and boys, with Dr. Greer, General Superintendent, and Miss Sallie McCracken, Dean. The formal agreement was signed on March 1st by Dr. Greer and Henry Magie, for the N. C. B. C. as sponsors, with supervision of North Carolina Department of Conservation.

Another bird sanctuary has been organized, the estate of Mr. and Mrs. Martel, on the Yadkin river. The Kennedy Baptist home is under consideration as an organized bird sanctuary. Interested N. C. B. C. members are asked to cooperate.

PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB: At the January meeting, held on the evening of the 23rd, speakers were two of the younger members, Larry Crawford, who discussed Canvasback, Redhead, Buffle-head, and Golden-eye Ducks, and Oscar Paris, who discussed the Scaup and Lesser Scaup, and Old Squaw Ducks. Sketches used by Crawford were painted in color by Miss Carrie Chamberlain, of Greensboro high school, and Paris made the black and white sketches which he used.

An all day field trip to Gaddy's Wildlife Refuge, near Ansonville, was carried out February 2, under the direction of Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall. The club has decided to have as special study this year waterfowl, with special emphasis on ducks, geese, and swans. The 20 power B. & L. prism telescope which the club purchased late last year is being put to good use with numerous field trips for waterfowl study.

MECKLENBURG AUDUBON CLUB: For the March 21 meeting, the Mecklenburg Audubon Club, at Charlotte, plans to hear Professor Franklin Sherman, of Clemson College, Clemson, S. C., speak on "Warblers." Dr. Sherman planned to bring a number of warbler skins from fine collection at Clemson College.

HENDERSON BIRD CLUB: It was a pleasure for the members of the club to have as guest at the January meeting Robert Wolff, of Goldsboro. After the business session and report of the Christmas count, Wolff gave an interesting talk. He stressed particularly the drive for membership in the N. C. B. C., with the goal set at one thousand members by the tenth anniversary in March. He told of the fall field trip to Lake Mattamuskeet, and the tentative plans for the Annual meeting of the N. C. B. C., which is to be held at Atlantic Beach, Morehead City, N. C., on May 2, 3, and 4.

For the February meeting, the Henderson Bird Club invited all the Boy and Girl Scouts of Henderson to see three moving pictures, How Birds Feed Their Young, Thrushes and their Relatives, and Birds of the Dooryard. In the afternoon these pictures were shown to the Negro Scouts, and in the evening they were shown to the white Scouts.

Mrs. A. W. BACHMAN, *President.*

HICKORY BIRD CLUB: At the January meeting, held on the evening of the 9th, at the home of Miss Garnet Launey, the present officers were reelected for another term. The hostess had an attractive display of miniature birds of glass, and also exhibited some attractive bird paintings. Miss Launey read an interesting paper on the life of Alexander Wilson, noted early American ornithologist. Mrs. George E. Bisanar gave the first of a series of studies on the life of T. Gilbert Pearson, one

time president of the National Audubon Society, and author and co-author of several important bird books, including "Birds of North Carolina." Round table discussion brought out some interesting bird experiences which included one report of sixteen Cardinals seen at one time at one member's feeding station.

The February meeting, was announced for Thursday evening, February 13th, at the home of Mrs. E. C. Ivey.

J. W. CLINARD, *President.*

New Bird Club Organized at Mt. Airy

A group of interested citizens in Mount Airy met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Yokely, on the evening of January 28th, and organized the Mount Airy Bird Club. Officers elected by the new club include: Mrs. J. Bruce Yokely, President; O. W. Kohtitzky, Vice-President; Mrs. H. G. Long, Secretary; and Fred L. Johnson, Treasurer. The club, which now has over twenty adult members, has already begun its program of educational work in the schools, among the Boy and Girl Scouts, the Boy's Club, and civic organizations. One immediate goal is the establishment of a municipal Bird Sanctuary in Mount Airy, and in this matter Mayor W. Frank Carter, Jr., has promised full cooperation in presenting the project to the Mount Airy City Council.

At the first open meeting of the Mount Airy Bird Club, held at the high school, on the evening of February 24th, a group of members and other interested persons were present, including the Scout organizations, to hear Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, former North Carolina State Bird Club president, and editor of *The Chat*, the official magazine of the N. C. B. C. Dr. Shaftesbury gave a talk on "Winter Birds in North Carolina," with colored slide pictures, and showed a short colored moving picture, "How Birds Feed Their Young."

Raleigh Bird Club Holds Anniversary Memorial "Loyalty Dinner"

For the March meeting, the Raleigh Bird Club, parent organization of the North Carolina Bird Club, held an Anniversary Memorial dinner at Raleigh's S. & W. Cafeteria. Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green sketched briefly for the group of about 150, the 10-year history of the N.C.B.C. Dr. Richard Weaver, formerly National Audubon Society camp director, now program director of the North Carolina Resource Use Education Commission, at present at Chapel Hill, showed bird slides and a moving picture of the Greenwich Nature Center and its activities. Dr. Cary Bostian, assistant director of Instruction at the school of Agriculture and Forestry, at the North Carolina State College, Raleigh, showed a moving picture of the Audubon Nature Camp in Maine.

Brief tributes were paid to three outstanding members and founders of both local and State bird clubs, H. H. Brimley, Dr. C. S. Brimley, and Prof. R. W. Green, who have died during the past year.

Robert Overing discussed the meaning of the "Loyalty Dinner," in which funds were being contributed, to be divided equally between local bird clubs and the N. C. B. C., for furthering projects of each, such as work with the schools and Scout organizations, the enlargement of *The Chat*, official magazine of the state bird club, the bringing of lecturers, and the publication of scientific papers. (Incidentally, a check for \$17.45, representing half of the net proceeds of the dinner, was for-

warded to Mrs. O. F. Jensen, president of the N.C.B.C., for the use in the work of the state bird club.)

Among guests of honor were Mrs. H. H. Brimley and Mrs. C. S. Brimley. A telegram was read from Rev. John H. Gray, one of the founders and first editor of *The Chat*, formerly of the West Raleigh Presbyterian Church, now of Charlottesville, Va. Messages were also read from Mrs. O. F. Jensen, Chapel Hill, president of the North Carolina Bird Club, and from Miss Clara Hearne, Roanoke Rapids, former president.

A Trip to a Swan's Nest

H. H. BRIMLEY

The following incident in connection with a bird whose nesting habits are little known on this side of the water, may possibly be of interest to some of your readers. Some years ago the writer was an inmate of a large boarding school near the town of Bedford, England, and in company with two other boys spent many of the Saturday holidays in collecting eggs. On one of our expeditions in the summer of 1877 we discovered the nest of a pair of Mute Swans on a reedy island in the middle of the river Ouse, some four miles below Bedford and at once resolved to add at least one of the eggs to our collection. On the following Saturday, my two companions and myself, procured leave of absence and hurried off to the boatyard where we were soon in possession of a light pair of oars for the afternoon. I had then in my possession a small silver-mounted, single barrel, muzzle loading pistol of which I was exceedingly proud, probably chiefly for the reason that I could never kill anything with it. It was duly loaded, capped and put in the possession of the man at the helm. Pulling a steady oar and with many speculations as to the number of eggs we should get, we at length arrived in sight of our goal. We slowed up, then rowed beyond and all around the island to find out the whereabouts of the birds. We saw one, presumably the female, on the nest, apparently obvious of our presence. The other we could not discover, so we ran our boat ashore at the upper end, made it fast and prepared for the fray. All of us had a very wholesome respect for the prowess of the Mute Swan, being familiar with many tales of them attacking and grievously injuring sundry specimens of the genus *boy*, and therefore made preparations to repel the attacks of the enemy should they show fight. We approached the nest cautiously and surrounded it. My companions, each brandishing an oar formed the van whilst the artillery under my command defended the rear. Emboldened by the passive attitude of the oc-

cupant we carefully pushed the bird to one side and by so doing exposed to our delighted gaze three eggs—just one apiece. These were quickly appropriated and transferred to the pockets of the writer and allowing the old bird to resume her previous position, which she did immediately, the retreat commenced. We laid the eggs in the bottom of the boat on a bed of rushes and pushed off down the river. Just as we cleared the lower end of the island, the male bird was seen clambering up the bank and approaching his mate. We had not proceeded more than a few hundred yards when we saw him slide into the water and give chase. Finding swimming too slow he raised his enormous wings and beating the water with his paddles made a bee-line for the boat. His whole appearance denoting excessive rage and not wishing to engage in combat with only our frail craft between us and ten feet of not too warm water we ran the boat ashore and jumped out armed as before. On he came still making the water fly with his broad feet till within less than five feet of us he slid into the water and swam backwards and forwards a time or two as if hesitating whether to attack us or not. Finally he swam out into the middle of the river and raising himself out of the water came at us as before, sliding down into a swimming posture before reaching land. This he repeated several times and at length left us and swam up the river to rejoin his mate. Whether he would have attacked us if we had remained in the boat I do not know, but all his movements gave one the idea of utter fearlessness and excessive anger. In repassing the island on our return, he was standing by the side of the nest having apparently forgotten our existence.

The eggs were of a greenish white color, of a size proportionate to that of the bird, and very variable in dimensions and shape. I regret that I cannot give measurements as I broke the egg that fell to my share some years ago. The nest was simply a heap of rushes, two feet in height with a depression in the center.—(From *Ornithologist and Oologist*, March, 1886, p. 39.)

Evaluation of a Ten-Year Period of Christmas Bird Counts at Raleigh, N. C.

DAVID L. WRAY

Since its organization in 1937, the Raleigh Bird Club as a group has been participating in the annual Christmas bird count, and we look forward to it as one of our main field events. However, Christmas bird counts have been made at Ral-

eight regularly since 1900, most of them led by the late Dr. C. S. Brimley, to whom I am very much indebted for checking over the data in this paper. Dr. Brimley also kept migration records and counts here at Raleigh from 1885 to 1900. In making a compilation of Christmas counts to present to the Raleigh Bird Club, many interesting facts became evident and it seemed that it might be worth while to summarize our counts and try to see what was being accomplished.

There are two main purposes or values to such counts. 1. Esthetic Value. There is no end to the esthetic value, the meeting and outing of bird lovers; the inspiration of young nature students, and this we cannot over emphasize if we want continuity of purpose; and most of all the enjoyment of God's great out-of-doors to make life richer and fuller. 2. Obtaining Scientific Data. This is of great importance and is our chief objective in such counts.

Geography of the Raleigh Area

Raleigh is 362 feet above sea level and is situated on the so-called "fall-line," that is, where the Piedmont and Coastal Plain areas meet. Our Christmas count circle of 15 miles diameter, which we have covered each year in the same general plan, contains the city of Raleigh entirely, which is about 6 miles across. Within the city proper are many parks with ponds, streams, woods, and gardens. The topography consist of slightly rolling country, hills, lowlands, and some level fields. Referring to the accompanying map, we have three large creeks, Walnut, Crabtree, and Swift, flowing in an easterly direction; a small portion of a fairly large river, the Neuse; two large lakes, Raleigh and Johnson; and six fair-sized ponds, Pullen, Yates, Boneyard, Brickyard, Country Club, and Boone. Intermingled over this whole area are heavily and sparsely wooded sections especially in the northwest sector or Lead Mines area, around Boone's Pond, and northeast in the Country Club-Lassiter Mill area. There are many open fields, with bottom-lands and meadows along streams, hillsides planted in pastures or grain, or lying idle, hedgerows, marsh-lands with mudflats, and damp thickets around the shores of the ponds and lakes.

The types of bird habitats can be listed as follows. Except the birds of group 1 which are more or less confined to water, birds placed in other groups may be found in all or many of the other habitats and are marked by an asterisk (*).

1. Birds seen on or near water of lakes, ponds, and streams: Common Loon, Horned and Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great and Little Blue Herons, Whistling Swan, Mallard, Black Duck, Gadwall, Baldpate, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Shoveller, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Canvas-back, Lesser-Scaup Duck, American Golden-eye, Bufflehead, Old-squaw, Ruddy Duck, Hooded, American, and Red-breasted Mergansers, Coot, and Ring-billed Gull. (27 species).

2. Birds seen in places near water, viz., mudflats, damp thicket or woods near water, marshlands, low meadows along streams, etc.: Red-tailed*, Red-shouldered*, and Marsh Hawks, Killdeer, Woodcock, Wilson's Snipe, Belted Kingfisher, Phoebe, Hermit Thrush, Red-wing, Purple Grackle*, Savannah, Fox, and Swamp Sparrows. (14 species).

3. Birds seen in upland fields (open, cultivated, pasture, or abandoned with broom-sedge and few scattered pines or other trees therein): Bobwhite*, Mourning and Rock Doves*, Crow*, American Pipit, Starling*, Palm Warbler, Meadowlark, Cowbird, Vesper Sparrow, Field and Song* Sparrows (12).

4. Birds seen in hedgerows, orchards, gardens around houses, along roadsides on overhead wires or on fences, at edge of fields with few scattered large trees (generally seen enroute from other main places covered in counts): Sharp-shinned*,

Cooper's*, and Sparrow Hawks, Blue Jay*, Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin*, Bluebird*, Cedar Waxwing*, Loggerhead and Migrant Shrikes, English Sparrow*, Cardinal*, Purple Finch, Redpoll, Goldfinch, Junco*, and White-throated Sparrow*. (18).

5. Birds seen in woodland, or in sparse groves as occur in town or around houses, parks, cemeteries, etc.: Barn, Screech, and Barred Owls, Flicker, Red-bellied, Red-headed, Hairy, and Downy Woodpeckers*, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted, Red-breasted, and Brown-headed Nuthatches, Brown Creeper, Winter and Carolina Wrens*, Golden and Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Blue-headed Vireo, Myrtle and Pine Warblers, Pine Siskin, and Towhee*. (24 species).

6. Birds seen flying or soaring overhead that may associate with or be near all habitats 2 to 5: Turkey and Black Vultures. Here may be placed the Red-shouldered, Red-tailed, and Cooper's Hawks. (2).

Our Christmas Count Plan

Roughly our count circle can be divided into four areas by the main points of the compass.

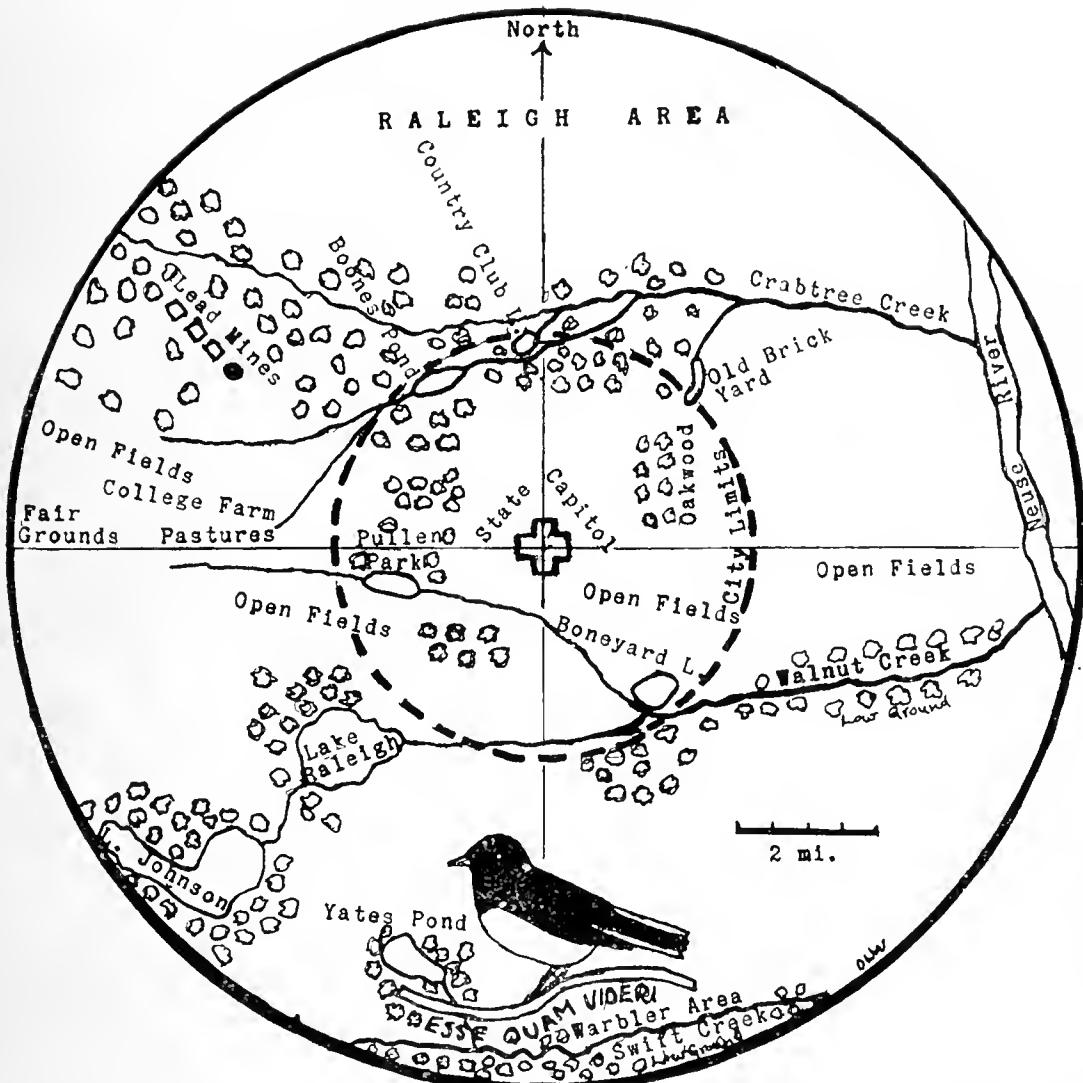
Area 1, Southwest Sector. This is our main area in which 75% of our species each year would be expected to be seen. Beginning with Pullen Park there are hills covered with large oaks, elms, cedars, maples, etc. These hills slope down to the pond formed on Rocky Branch which originates three miles west. Mudflats and lowlands covered with willows, alders, etc., abound along the upper edge, while around its lower borders are grasslands. Between Pullen Park and Lake Raleigh are many cultivated and abandoned fields, many hedgerows, fence rows, orchards, thickets of pines, and oak groves. Lake Raleigh is surrounded by open fields 1-3, pine woods 1-3, and oak-harwood 1-3, with the usual marshy land and thickets of willow, alder, etc., up stream. Lake Johnson is surrounded by dominant oak deciduous wood on the south side and pine-dominant woodland on the other with the usual damp-thickets and marshy land along the streams flowing in and out. Yates Pond is surrounded by a mixed wood and a habitat quite similar to Lake Raleigh although on a smaller scale.

Area 2, Southeast Sector. In this sector, Boneyard Lake and the Walnut Creek lowgrounds are the main parts covered. C. S. Brimley told me that this area was his chief bird collecting and observation grounds in days agone. The roadsides with fences and overhead wires and the grove in Federal Cemetery come in for expected places to see needed common birds, as shrikes and hawks, while on our way to Boneyard. Boneyard with its surrounding marshes offers a good habitat for marsh and water birds. (Boneyard gets its name from the fact that years ago dead animals were dumped there.) On one side is a pasture-old field combination where we have seen Yellow Palm Warblers two years. Down Walnut Creek east of Boneyard and toward the Neuse are lowgrounds covered with thickets and scattered woods of Carolina poplar, willow, ironwood, maple, oak, etc. Intermingled on its banks are many shrubs which have been scattered from yard plantings, as the Amur River Privet, *Osmanthus Americana*, etc. Here we have seen Cedar Waxwings and Purple Finch when needed for our list.

Area 3, Northeast Sector. This area includes Oakwood and other cemeteries, the old Brickyard Pond, Lassiter's Mill section, Bloomsbury Park, and the lower reaches of Crabtree Creek and a small section of the Neuse river. Generally the habitats along streams are quite similar to those of the Southwest Sector, but on a smaller scale. This is where the Hairy and other Woodpeckers can be found.

Area 4, Northwest Sector. This area is of importance in coverage because of its large open fields and pastures around the Fairgrounds and College Farm where birds of habitat three are likely to be seen, such as the Pipit. The Lead Mines area is a heavily wooded section with streams and offers a good chance for our hard to find woodland birds. As in the other Sectors there are fields, lowlands, orchards, hedgerows which make the habitats quite similar. So we might say that our four sectors are very similar, but vary in scale.

As seen above, from an ecological viewpoint, we have an excellent area. Each year of the ten we have covered the same general areas in our circle, whether there was only one party as in 1941 or two parties as in 1937 and 1938. Ideally we should



have out at least six parties, two deployed to the Southwest, two to the Northwest, one to the Southeast, and one to the Northeast. Then if other factors were favorable we should stand a good chance to boost our average number of species. The number of parties out in the field has some influence, as noted in the tables. Taking one or two years for comparison this may not be evident, but looking at the table for the ten years the general trend is toward a better record when there are more parties, particularly in the last five years. We have always distributed the more experienced observers out in the parties with the less experienced.

TABLE I

SUMMARY OF TEN YEAR PERIOD OF CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS AT RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA.

	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	Total
1. Loon, Common . .			1								1
2. Grebe, Horned . .										1	1
3. Grebe, Pied-billed .	2	4	6			3			1	1	17
4. Cormorant, D-c . .								2			2
5. Heron, Great B. . .	1	3	3	2	1	2	4	1	3	1	21
6. Heron, Little B. . .										1	1
7. Swan, Whist. . . .								9			9
8. Mallard		2	10			52	74	183	6	10	337
9. Duck, Black	11		8	6		56	80	92	6	50	309
10. Gadwall							2	4	1	4	11
11. Baldpate						4					4
12. Pintail	9					1	4	20		1	26
13. Teal, Green-w. . .			7				1	1		2	11
14. Shoveller								2			2
15. Redhead	1							12	2		15
16. Duck, Ring-n. . . .	108	61	161	5	30	20	79	200	80	200	944
17. Canvas-back				1		2		18			21
18. Duck, Lesser-Scaup	12	2	7	39	6	64	18	5	20	23	196
19. Golden-eye, A. . . .	3		1	1		4		3		2	14
20. Buffle-head	4				1			3	3	10	21
21. Old-squaw	1		1					1			3
22. Duck, Ruddy	4	2				15		9	2	6	38
23. Merganser, H. . . .	4	3	13	9		9	26	1	19	8	92
24. Merganser, A. . . .				24	6	49	1	5			85
25. Merganser, Red-b.	4							4			8
26. Vulture, Turkey . .	25	16	26	1	5	6	20	25	16	10	150
27. Vulture, Black . . .	3	39	11		1		13	3	2		72
28. Hawk, S.-s.	1	1	1		2	1	2	1	2		11
29. Hawk, Cooper's . . .	1	1	3		4		2	1	3	1	16
30. Hawk, Red-t.	2	3	4			5	5	3	3	1	26
31. Hawk, Red-S.	1	3	2		1	1	4	1	3		16
32. Hawk, Marsh			1	1		1	2		1	1	7
33. Hawk, Sparrow . . .	6	7	10	2	4	2	5	6	4	2	48
34. Bob-white	9		32		12	42	54	12	9	23	193
35. Coot							3				3
36. Killdeer	17	40	32	35	14	5	23	12	6	6	190
37. Woodcock									1	1	3
38. Snipe, Wilson's . .				7							7
39. Gull, Ring-billed .			2								2
40. Dove, Mourning . .	38	30	249	69	2	82	228	32	33	4	767
41. Dove, Rock					16						16
42. Owl, Barn			2								2
43. Owl, Screech				1							1
44. Owl, Barred					2						2
45. Kingfisher, B. . . .	4	1	4	3	4	2	4	4	4	7	37
46. Flicker	12	7	18	11	24	27	4	16	16	11	146

47. Woodpecker, R.-b.		1	3		4	2	1	3	4	18
48. Woodpecker, R.-h.	2	4	2	4	3	16	10	2	2	45
49. Sapsucker, Y.-b.		1	4	1	2	4	2	3	1	19
50. Woodpecker, H.		2	1	6	3	2	1	1	3	19
51. Woodpecker, D.	25	9	12	8	7	6	3	1	2	80
52. Phoebe	3	2	5	3	2	5	1	1	2	24
53. Jay, Blue	25	21	48	6	4	29	12	31	38	42 256
54. Crow	45	150	75	26	5	51	87	44	46	29 608
55. Chickadee, C.	30	24	29	43	25	33	11	52	43	38 328
56. Titmouse, T.	8	9	26	20	9	12	11	19	21	20 153
57. Nuthatch, W.-b.	2	1	3		1	3	3	3	2	6 24
58. Nuthatch, R.-b.						4			3	7
59. Nuthatch, B.-h.	3	6	9	12	9	1	3	7	5	55
60. Creeper, B.	8	1	4	1	7	9	2	2	1	7 42
61. Wren, Winter	5	1	15		2			1	2	1 27
62. Wren, Carolina	9	20	19	13	10	24	21	13	33	19 181
63. Mockingbird	10	11	14	3	5	10	14	27	12	31 137
64. Brownthrasher	1	1	1			1			1	3 8
65. Robin	1	25	12		6	1	18	6	6	74
66. Thrush, Hermit	4	13	2	4	5	4	3	1	4	4 44
67. Bluebird	25	45	155	9	40	38	54	43	11	48 468
68. Kinglet, G.-c.	25	25	58	25	35	58	25	6	42	17 316
69. Kinglet, R.-c.	5	9	28	2	9	10	9	9	8	3 92
70. Pipit, Amer.	60	55	36	100				10		261
71. Waxwing, Cedar	8		7		40			32	10	50 147
72. Shrike, Logger h.		1		2		2	4	4	6	1 20
73. Shrike, Migrant			1		1					2
74. Starling	105	120	390	31	60	230	1180	105	281	175 2677
75. Vireo, Blue-h.		1								1
76. Warbler, Myrtle			34	1	5	3	7	16	8	10 84
77. Warbler, Pine	3	25	34	25	12	7	2	35	4	10 157
78. Warbler, Palm								5	2	7
79. Sparrow, Eng.	95	200	158	50	150	72	284	33	3	86 1131
80. Meadowlark	16	40	177	51	40	24	106	54	37	29 574
81. Red-wing		30	280	100	24	465	796			1695
82. Grackle, Purple							8			8
83. Cowbird	100		10			90	297	120		25 642
84. Cardinal	25	17	46	28	45	30	48	21	20	44 324
85. Finch, Purple	20		17	30	25		9	11	16	22 150
86. Redpoll										8 8
87. Siskin, Pine							41			18 59
88. Goldfinch	3	13	43	13	56	26	14	132	13	46 359
89. Towhee	4	7	12	1	4	12	15	18	29	21 123
90. Sparrow, Savan.			10	2	3	13	11	14		10 63
91. Sparrow, Vesper			3		2	2	4	3		1 15
92. Junco	90	80	494	180	250	187	264	251	185	117 2098
93. Sparrow, Field	20	37	173	85	60	39	79	115	32	12 652
94. Sparrow, W.-t.	110	150	144	60	40	65	254	66	121	79 1089
95. Sparrow, Fox		3	9	5	45	3	70	1	1	137
96. Sparrow, Swamp	8	10	5	33	8	7	5			3 79
97. Sparrow, Song	105	260	138	185	225	218	273	68	112	71 1655

Total Species 60 56 73 52 58 64 66 73 63 69

Number individuals . . . 1281 629 3371 1369 1455 2270 4693 2080 1407 1517

Total species during ten year period—97 species.

Weather has some influence, as noted in 1940 when only 52 species were seen by three parties. On that count, the weather was foggy and misty all day with a light wind, and the visibility was very poor. The two best years were in 1939 and 1944 when the weather was clear, calm, fairly warm, and ideal for birds to be active, as well as observers.

The table shows for the ten years, an average of 63.4 species seen on each count, but for the last five years where the number of parties and observers increased the average was 67 species. There have been 97 species recorded during this period out of possibilities of 115. To make the list more complete and useful the "possible" species are listed, those which have been observed in December at Raleigh or Chapel Hill (29 miles away): Bittern (habitat 2), Blue-winged Teal (1), Wood Duck (1), Osprey (1), Wild Turkey (5) King Rail (2), Herring Gull (1), Bonaparte's Gull (1), Great Horned Owl (5), Long-eared Owl (5), Saw-whet Owl (5), Pileated Woodpecker (5), Horned Lark (3), Bewick's Wren (5*), Catbird (*4), Maryland Yellow-throat (5*), Rusty Blackbird (2), and Chipping Sparrow (4*):

We have a better count of land birds than water birds which is to be expected, although there are some good straggler and rare records due to the two fairly large lakes. Of the 97 species recorded there are 16 seen only once on the count days. Of these the Loon, Horned Grebe, Baldpate, and Ring-billed Gull are occasional inland visitors as we do not have many records of them on other dates. Straggling inland visitors are the Double-crested Cormorant and Whistling Swan which winter along the coastal region and perhaps stormy weather conditions drove them inland. The Shoveller, Coot, Wilson's Snipe, and Purple Grackle are seen occasionally where conditions are favorable. The Little Blue Heron seen at the County Club Lake is an interesting record. It is classed as a summer visitor from March to October and no doubt due to the warm weather this winter this one lingered on. The Barn, Screech, and Barred Owls are residents and are only recorded once due to time of observations. The Blue-headed Vireo, seen only once, is classed as a resident but we have few records at other dates. The most interesting record is the Redpoll which is a rare winter visitor and which was seen feeding with Goldfinch and Purple Finch along a field and hedgerow on the road to Lake Raleigh.

There were 33 species recorded every year of the counts: Great Blue Heron (R), Ring-necked Duck (W), Lesser Scaup Duck (W), Turkey Vulture (R), Sparrow Hawk (R), Killdeer (R), Dove (R), Kingfisher (R), Flicker (R), Downy Woodpecker (R), Blue Jay (R), Crow (R), Chickadee (R), Titmouse (R), Brown Creeper (W), Carolina Wren (R), Mockingbird (R), Hermit Thrush (W), Bluebird (R), Golden and Ruby-crowned Kinglets (W), Starling (R), Pine Warbler (R), Meadowlark (R), Cardinal (R), Goldfinch (R), Towhee (R), Junco (W), English Sparrow (R), White-throated Sparrow (W), and Song Sparrow (W). The publication "Birds Around Raleigh, N. C.—Seasonal Lists," by David L. Wray, Inf. Cir. 45-5, N. C. State Museum, lists 49 birds as residents and of these only four have not been seen on count days, Wood Duck, Wild Turkey, Great Horned Owl, and Pileated Woodpecker. Of the 45 winter visitors, only six have not been seen on count days, Long-eared, Short-eared, and Saw-whet Owls, Horned and Prairie-horned Larks, and Bewick's Wren. Hence 45 residents plus 38 winter visitors make up 93% of our count species, leaving only 7% to rare stragglers and accidentals. This shows good coverage of habitats in all counts.

Over a period of years much good data can be obtained as to population fluctuation, change in range of various species due to various conditions as weather, food geography, etc., and the status of many of our common birds. We have a fairly good list of water birds even though scanty as yearly records. With the numerous

lakes and ponds there are many possibilities of more records. The population of those water birds more commonly recorded appears to be substantial. It is evident that the vultures and hawks are holding their own fairly well for the period covered. The status of the Dove, Killdeer, and Bobwhite is good. The Woodcock and Wilson's Snipe, being birds of the damp thickety-wood habitat are not seen frequently on census days, although such habitats are covered. Records of owls are low, no doubt due to starting too late in the morning. From those seen at other dates it seems this group is holding up well in population. Of the group of 33 species of birds recorded every year all seem to be averaging well in numbers except there is some evidence that the English Sparrow is not quite as numerous. Starlings seem to be on the increase.

The tables show some interesting fluctuations and there are no doubt some unknown factors which are exerting influences. There are common birds we should have seen and didn't even with large number of parties.

In 1946, with five parties, the Robin, Sharpshinned and Red-shouldered Hawks, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Fox Sparrow, and Redwing were not seen. In other years with large number of parties, such birds as the Phoebe, Redwing, and Swamp Sparrow were not seen. Why should Redwings be seen in such large numbers most years and none be seen the past three years? And the Robin, where was he this year? I have not seen a Robin this winter and others have seen few or none here at Raleigh. *Why?* Some sort of explanation can be placed to erratic as the Red-breasted Nuthatch, Cedar Waxwing, Blue-headed Vireo, Palm Warbler (only seen last two years), and Pine Siskin. But when it comes to our common "standbys" the *Why* is still to be answered. Maybe in the years to come when enough tables, dates, data, and numbers are assembled to stifle an ultra-modern mathematician, some of these questions can be answered, but some interesting results can be seen from even a few Christmas Counts or other bird counts. But ten years is too brief to summarize. It would be still more interesting to delve into the records here, some of which go back 60 years or more.

Some Feeding Habits and Nesting Records of Birds of the Highlands, N. C., Region with an Annotated List of the Birds Observed

THELMA HOWELL, LYDIA M. SARGENT, LEONCE FREMEAUX WALL*,

Highlands Museum and Biological Laboratory

Stevenson (1941) designated as the "Highlands, North Carolina, Region" that area circumscribed by a fifteen-mile radius from the town, the altitudinal range within the area varying from 1400 feet to 5154 feet. More recently, the investigators at the Highlands Biological Laboratory have taken as the limits of the "Highlands Region" the area covered by a circle with a five mile radius from the bench mark in the

*Leonce Fremeaux Wall died August 3, 1946. In her memory there has been established the Leonce Fremeaux Wall Fellowship at the Highlands Biological Laboratory, preference to be given students interested in ornithological investigations.

down-town section. This area marks the boundaries of the Highlands Plateau and gives a variation in altitude from 2240 feet to 5140 feet (Howell, 1945). The average elevation within the town of Highlands is 4118 feet, and the main hiking trails to the adjacent mountain tops begin at an elevation of about 3800 feet and end at an elevation of about 5000 feet. As a result the observations of bird life made in the "Highlands Region" would reflect the type characteristic of the higher mountain peaks in North Carolina.

While the biota cards of the Highlands Biological Laboratory contain records of the observations of many ornithologists (Howell, 1945) the exact status of many of the birds is unknown and the migration and nesting records too sparse for accurate conclusions at this time. Within recent years many of the bird enthusiasts affiliated with the Highlands Museum and Biological Laboratory have undertaken individual projects to determine migration data, nesting habits and behavior of the birds of the area. This paper reports the results of one of the initial projects.

The observations reported in this paper cover the period from April 15, 1944 to October 14, 1944. Records include only those observations made within the altitudinal range of 3800 feet to 5100 feet, most of the area lying within city limits. A feeding station maintained in the yard of "Boifleuri," the home of Leonce F. Wall on East Main Street, came about in an unusual way. In order to watch a pair of quail, mixed grain was scattered on the lawn, and when other birds appeared in such large numbers to eat, their habits so captured the interest of the household and visitors, most of whom did not know one bird from another, the station was continued.

The records have been assembled in an annotated list of birds observed with notes as to their nesting and feeding habits. Dates are given in cases where the bird was seen one or two times only, or in cases where the records are of particular interest in compiling migration data. Unless otherwise noted, observations were made by all three observers.

ANNOTATED LIST OF BIRDS SEEN IN THE VICINITY OF THE TOWN OF HIGHLANDS, NORTH CAROLINA, APRIL 15, 1944-OCTOBER 14, 1944.

1. SPARROW HAWK. One seen April 15, 1944, flying over Lake Ravenel (T. Howell). Earliest previous record June 22, 1937 (H. Stevenson).

2. RUFFED GROUSE

3. BOBWHITE. Birds were heard frequently in the city limits.

On June 11, 1944 grain was scattered on the lawn and a pair fed that day, and everyday throughout the summer. On August 1 another adult but smaller pair fed

and continued throughout the summer. Invariably the male came first giving his "scatter-call" as he leisurely traversed the edge of the shrubbery. Soon the female followed and together they ate. When alarmed they never flushed but ran rapidly to cover afforded by the rhododendron and azalea surrounding the yard (L. Wall).

4. SPOTTED SANDPIPER. On May 27, 1944, and for several weeks thereafter several were seen about the edge of Lake Ravenel. On July 22 two young were seen feeding on the moss-covered rocks in the spillway of the dam. When disturbed these young birds flew to the hemlock trees overhanging the spillway. The adults were never observed after the young were seen. With the exception of a record of "May 8, 1896 (B. Torrey)" this is the only record for the spotted sandpiper for the Highlands area up to the time covered by these observations (T. Howell).

5. WHIP-POOR-WILL. First heard May 22, 1944 (L. Sargent).

6. NIGHT-HAWK. One seen on September 16, 1944 circling over Lake Ravenel at dusk (T. Howell.)

7. RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD. One seen on June 12, 1944 (L. Wall, T. Howell). Six seen feeding on Oswego Tea (*Monarda didyma* Linn.) On July 26, 1944 (L. Wall.)

8. BELTED KINGFISHER. One seen June 14, 1944 (L. Sargent.)

9. PILEATED WOODPECKER. One seen on trail to Fodderstack Mountain on July 1, 1944 (L. Sargent.).

10. DOWNY WOODPECKER.

11. CRESTED FLYCATCHER. One seen June 6, 1944 in tall pine on edge Lake Ravenel (L. Sargent.). Earliest record for area.

12. PHOEBE.

13. LEAST FLYCATCHER. One seen July 5, 1944 (L. Sargent.)

14. WOOD PEWEE. On May 24, 1944 a pair was seen on telephone wire opposite "Boifleuri." For several weeks the birds came singly throughout each day to perch just about at the same place on the wire. Occasionally the bird would dart to catch an insect. In August the pair came together to the telephone wire. They feasted on large hatches of aquatic insects, and finally changed their perch to the power lines in the yard at "Boifleuri" which was much nearer the creek from which the hatches of insects were coming. No young were ever seen. (L. Wall, T. Howell.).

15. BLUE JAY. On June 11, 1944 three Jays fed in the yard. At that time three Catbirds, several Juncos, one Towhee, and a family of Thrushes were feeding. In their greedy manner, the Jays would grab large pieces of bread and fly away. It is believed the food was carried to young as four days later a pair with two young came to feed. They were chased from the food by a pair of chipmunks who apparently had a personal resentment against Jays as they did not molest the other birds. In July, a pair of Jays with four young appeared. One of these young birds had lost its tail feathers. By August the Jay population had reached a total of fourteen. Several fights over the food occurred between Jays and the Thrushes, the latter always winning. (L. Wall).

16. CHICKADEE. First seen April 15, 1944 (T. Howell).

17. TUFTED TITMOUSE. First seen April 15, 1944. On July 12, a flock of seven came to eat, and daily flocks of about that size fed at "Boifleuri" (L. Wall T. Howell.).

THE CHAT

18. RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH. One seen June 12, 1944 (L. Sargent).
19. CATBIRD. June 9, 1944, nest with three nestlings found in Rhododendron six feet from ground (L. Sargent). On July 2, 1944, another nest with three young found (L. Sargent). Four adults were seen on Sept. 2, 1944 (L. Wall, T. Howell).
20. BROWN THRASHER. May 27, 1944, nest with four nestlings found three feet from ground in Leucothoe (L. Sargent). June 4, 1944 nest with one egg in Rhododendron four feet from ground (L. Sargent). June 11, 1944 pair with one young fed in yard (L. Wall). One adult seen Sept. 2 (L. Wall, T. Howell).
21. ROBIN. By April 15, 1944 Robins were common. June 4, 1944, four recently-vacated nests were found in White Pine not over eight feet from the ground. Young Robins were nearby (T. Howell). June 21, 1944 nest with three young in apple tree, eight feet from ground. This nest was empty on June 30 (L. Sargent, T. Howell). Aug. 28 nine Robins in yard in early morning. On October 7, at 7:30 A.M. eight young Robins seen in yard and in late afternoon of that day Robins in groups of three to six kept flying back and forth to a nearby wooded area. On a return trip to Highlands October 14 no Robins were seen (L. Wall, T. Howell).
22. WOOD THRUSH.
23. VEERY. June 4, 1944 female flew from nest containing four nestlings. This nest, located two feet from ground in Leucothoe bush, was empty on June 7 (L. Sargent).
24. BLUEBIRD.
25. GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET. June 8, 1944 one seen (L. Sargent).
26. CEDAR WAXWING. Pair seen July 5, 1944 near edge of Lake Ravenel (T. Howell). Aug. 22 three pairs seen daily flying across the lake (T. Howell).
27. WHITE-EYED VIREO.
28. MOUNTAIN VIREO.
29. RED-EYED VIREO.
30. BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER.
31. CAIRN'S WARBLER.
32. BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER.
33. CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER.
34. PINE WARBLER. Male seen Sept. 2, 1944. Oct. 7 six seen in shrubbery in yard (L. Wall, T. Howell).
35. OVEN BIRD. Nest with four eggs seen on trail to Fodderstack Mountain (L. Sargent).
36. HOODED WARBLER. One seen July 1, 1944 (L. Sargent).
37. CANADA WARBLER. Pair seen June 23, 1944 near Lake Ravenel (T. Howell). Common in July.
38. SCARLET TANAGER. Pair seen June 13, 1944 near Lake Ravenel (T. Howell).
39. CARDINAL. June 3, 1944 female on nest which could not be observed in detail (L. Sargent). Aug. 6, 1944 very young Cardinal in yard at "Boifleuri" (L. Wall). Sept. 2 pair and one young in yard, and on Oct. 14 young pair in yard (L. Wall, T. Howell).
40. ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK. First seen June 9, 1944 but common throughout summer (L. Sargent, T. Howell).

41. GOLDFINCH. Flock of 20 seen April 30, 1944 (L. Wall). Common in summer. Pair in yard Oct. 7, 1944 (L. Wall).

42. RED-EYED TOWHEE. June 4, 1944 nest with three nestlings in spruce about four feet from ground. This nest empty on June 7 (L. Sargent, T. Howell). June 11 male seen in yard at "Boifleuri," and two days later a female fed in the yard. This kept up for weeks but no young were seen. On Aug. 3 a young male was seen in the yard and on Aug. 6 a young female. On Aug. 30 a male with two very young birds (males) fed in the yard. On Sept. 2 two males and four very young birds (3 males and one female) fed together. On Oct. 13 two very young males, the same, it is believed, seen on Sept. 2 fed (L. Wall, T. Howell).

43. CAROLINA JUNCO. June 10, 1944 nest with four nestlings. Nest empty on June 15 (L. Sargent, T. Howell). June 22, bird seen to fly from nest. On June 25, 26, 27 an egg was laid: It was not possible to observe this nest after June 27 (L. Sargent, T. Howell). On July 3 another nest with two living and one dead nestling was seen (L. Sargent, T. Howell).

44. CHIPPING SPARROW. First seen June 19, 1944 (T. Howell).

SUMMARY

1. Records of 43 species of birds seen between April 15, 1944 and October 14, 1944, in the town of Highlands, North Carolina and nearby mountain peaks are reported: Sparrow Hawk, Ruffed Grouse, Bobwhite, Spotted Sandpiper, Whip-poor-will, Night-hawk, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Pileated Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Least Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Blue Jay, Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Veery, Bluebird, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, White-eyed Vireo, Mountain Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Cairn's Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Pine Warbler, Oven-bird, Hooded Warbler, Canada Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Goldfinch, Red-eyed Towhee, Carolina Junco, Chipping Sparrow.

2. Nesting and breeding records are reported for the Spotted Sandpiper, Blue Jay, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Veery, Ovenbird, Cardinal, Red-eyed Towhee, and Carolina Junco.

Literature Cited

Howell, Thelma. 1945. A Preliminary Check-list of the Birds of the Highlands Region. Pub. No. 5 Highlands Museum and Biological Laboratory.

Stevenson, Henry M., Jr. 1941. Summer Residents of the Highlands North Carolina, Region. *The Oriole*, Vol. 6, No. 4, Dec.

Questions and Answers

I would like to ask your help in identifying a bird that I first saw here last April, when it ate at my feeder. I didn't see it any more until this November, when I saw a small flock of 10 or 15 passing through the trees and bushes in my back-yard. A few weeks later, I saw two birds eating at my feeder. Since then they have been eating regularly at the feeder to date (Dec. 31). The bird's description: Bill, thrush-like and black; legs, black; crown, dark olive drab; nape of neck, little lighter drab than crown; back, lighter drab than crown with 4 or 5 faint brown stripes lengthwise on the back only; side of head, very narrow black line running from bill through and back of eye, also faint white line a little wider than the black running from a little in front of the eye back over the eye and black line; wing, black with narrow lengthwise white streaks and two wider white cross bars; rump, containing a bright yellow spot which is concealed by the wings part of the time; tail, black with lengthwise white streaks two of which are on the sides of the tail; throat, light gray; breast, dirty white with very faint dark brown or black marks on each side only; belly, white with distinct dark brown or black stripes on each side; habits, acts like a flycatcher darting from limb to limb and catching insects in midair. Eats more suet than any other bird at the feeders, including the Chickadees. Marion, N. C.

I have sent an answer to this correspondent who has written such an excellent description of his unknown bird, and has shown such careful observation. For our other readers and bird students, I believe I'll let each of you figure it out for yourselves. If you have any comment, drop a card to the Editor. A. D. S.

Status of Waterfowl in Inland North Carolina

HOWARD T. ODUM, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Until recently inland North Carolina, unglaciated and geologically old, had almost no lakes. In the last few decades inland Carolina has been honeycombed with ponds and artificial lakes, which have been a part of reservoir and progressive agricultural programs. This man-made change has made inland Carolina a wintering ground for a surprisingly great number of waterfowl. The 1940 census lists the area of ponds and inland waters as about 197 square miles in counties west of an arbitrary line taken through Murfreesboro, Withington, Washington, Kinston, Wallace, and Lake Waccamaw. This line eliminates the extensive sound waters and coastal duck and geese concentrations, which are not considered here. At various points, in the last 10 years particularly, bird observers have noted this gratifying addition to local faunas and reported their observations. In the following data are included, among others, the observations of W. Anderson, E. E. Brown, F. R. Brown, T. D. Burleigh, C. S. Brimley, H. H. Brimley, A. Breckenridge, J. S. Cairns, J. Carr, Mrs. E. B. Clarkson, J. Coffey, C. Coker, W. Craft, F. H. Craighill, W. Craven, W. Fox, R. E. Gregory, J. Grey, N. Hairston, W. H. Hammet, E. M. Hodel, R. Holmes, M. E. Huger, G. B. Lay, E. Mitchell, N. McCullough, E. P. Odum, H. T. Odum, R. Overing, T. L. Quay, T. G. Pearson, H. Rankin, E. Seeman, A. D. Shaftesbury, G. F. Shepherd, R. C. Simpson, G. Smith, Q. Scarborough, J. L. Stephens, E. Taylor, B. Thomas, R. B. Wallace, F. Williams, D. L. Wray, and T. Zapf.

An attempt is made here to obtain a very rough estimate of the status of each species, the numbers of waterfowl, and to summarize the migration data on hand. It is recognized that the amount and sampling of the data are such as to limit the detail from which conclusions may be drawn.

Forty winter censuses from central North Carolina have been tabulated and summarized in the accompanying table I, to give some idea of: (1) abundance, (2) frequency of occurrence, and (3) flock size of each species. Comparison has been made between each species on each of the above three characteristics by placing numbers to indicate the order of each species respectively (Columns II, V, VII).

TABLE I.—ABUNDANCE, OCCURRENCE, AND FLOCK SIZE OF WATERFOWL WINTERING IN CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA

From 40 winter censuses including: Chapel Hill, 25; Raleigh, 9; Greensboro, 5; Rocky Mount, 5; Winston-Salem, 3; Laurinburg, 2; and Badin Lake, 1; from November 25 to March 3—1932 to 1946. (a).

Species of Occuring Waterfowl:	I Average Number per ob- servation day:	II Order of Abundance:	III Crude estimate of num- bers wintering inland:	IV % of days occurring:	V Order of Frequency:	VI Average number per ob- servation day: (that it occurred)	VII Order of Flock Size:
Common Loon	*	26	16	4	24	1.0	25
Red-throated Loon	*	27	8	2	27	1.0	26
Horned Grebe	*	25	15	4	25	1.0	27
Pied-billed Grebe	1.2	11	477	48	5	2.1	20
Double-crested Cormorant ..	.1	22	40	4	23	1.5	23
(b) Whistling Swan .....	.4	20	158	4	26	9.0	8
(c) Canada Goose	12.2	4	4751	10	19	126.0	1
Mallard	21.4	2	8511	82	2	26.1	4
Black Duck	23.5	1	9346	84	1	27.9	3
Gadwall .....	.4	18	158	16	16	2.2	19
Baldpate	1.1	13	437	22	12	4.9	14
Pintail	1.2	12	477	18	13	6.9	12
Green-winged Teal .....	.4	19	158	8	20	4.5	15
Shoveller .....	.1	24	40	6	21	1.6	22
Wood Duck	5.1	6	2025	26	8	19.7	5
Red-head .....	.7	17	278	22	11	3.0	18
Ring-necked Duck	18.4	3	7106	62	3	29.7	2
Canvasback .....	.7	16	278	18	14	3.6	17
(d) Scaup	5.9	5	2343	34	7	10.8	7
Golden-eye .....	.7	15	278	18	15	6.9	13
Bufflehead	2.8	8	1112	40	6	7.1	10
Old Squaw .....	.1	23	40	6	22	1.0	24

Ruddy Duck .....	.9	14	357	24	10	3.8	16
Hooded Merganser	4.3	7	1708	54	4	8.0	9
American Merganser	2.4	9	953	24	9	7.0	11
Red-breasted Merganser	1.7	10	675	12	17	16.5	6
Coot .....	.2	21	79	10	18	1.8	21
						106.0	

* Close to zero.

- (a) Blue-winged Teal and Greater Snow Goose are sporadically found in inland N. C. in winter but did not occur in the censuses used.
- (b) Numbers are probably much too high due to presence of the same nine birds on two censuses.
- (c) Geese are almost all concentrated in a few places such as Yadkin river lakes, Winston-Salem ponds, and Ansonville. Most of the censuses in this table are not of these areas so that the estimates of numbers are probably low. As many as 3,000 have been counted at one time; 10,000 is one estimate applied by Fish and Wildlife service to the Yadkin river region at one time.
- (d) Both Lesser and Greater Scaup occur inland. Without reliable methods of observational distinction no attempt is made to separate the two species in the above table.

The table is mostly self explanatory. In column III, the numbers are comparative and proportional to the estimates in column I. The total number of waterfowl wintering in inland North Carolina has been estimated by averaging the number of waterfowl per square mile on studied bodies of water in one locality and extending to the state. The average number of waterfowl (ducks, geese, loons, grebes, swans, cormorants, coots) observed per day on 25 winter censuses at Chapel Hill, N. C., from November 25th to March 3rd, between 1932 and 1946, was 64.3. The area of water surveyed on each of these is roughly .3 square miles. Thus the wintering waterfowl population in this area was 214 birds per square mile. With about 197 square miles of fresh water in inland Carolina (defined above), this approach to a crude estimate gives $214 \times 197 = 42,158$ birds in inland N. C. This is a considerable number and makes these waterfowl now important in inland wildlife management. The crude estimate of wintering numbers has been extended to each species by ratio in column III. For example, the number of Black Ducks per day in column I of table I (23.5) is to the average number of all ducks per day (106) as x, the unknown number of Black Ducks in inland North Carolina, is to the total estimated waterfowl in this area, 42,158. Then x equals 9,346 Black Ducks in inland North Carolina.

There are some basic fallacies in these estimates of state populations. There are large variations in food conditions in different lakes that make generalizations from one set of lakes incorrect. Large variations in the amount of human disturbance to the waterfowl cause large differences in duck populations. The number of ducks per acre varies with the size and shape of the lake.

Abundance or numerosness refers to the total numbers as opposed to frequency, which indicates how often a species is found or the likelihood of finding it on any trip. Figures in column VI are the average number of birds per day that the species in question occurred. Roughly this is a measure of the flocking tendency. These numbers are not so good a measure of flocking tendency among species that do not occur in large flocks. Any bird like Pied-billed Grebe that occurs singly will tend to show up the same as an uncommon bird occurring in small

flocks, such as Gadwall, because several singly occurring Grebes would be lumped together in the census totals of the data used to make the table I above. It should be kept in mind that the flocking tendencies are not applicable outside of the area studied. The size of the flocks depends not only on the birds' inherent behavior but on the numbers present. Small numbers limit the flock size regardless of the bird's characteristic behavior. For example, Redheads and Canvasbacks are scarce in inland North Carolina and therefore can occur only in small flocks instead of huge rafts which are sometimes characteristic of these species in other areas.

All occurring species may be conveniently put in classes according to (1) abundance, (2) frequency of occurrence, and (3) flock size shown in Table I above.

WINTER STATUS

Class I—Numerous, common (frequently occurring), large flocks. Black Duck, Mallard, Ring-necked Duck.

Class II—Numerous, concentrated (infrequent), large flocks. Canada Goose.

Class III—Few, common, very small flocks or singly. Pied-billed Grebe.

Class IV—Few, rare and sporadic, small flocks or singly. Common Loon, Red-throated Loon, Horned Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Green-winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal, Shoveller, Old Squaw, Snow Goose.

Class V—Moderately numerous, fairly common, small flocks. All other species listed in Table I.

Referring still to Table I, note that column IV can be used as a guide to observers in evaluating the unusualness of their observations. However, the percentages cannot be directly applied by any observer to what he will see on any one lake because the data is a composite of large lakes with many ducks and much variety, and small ponds with few ducks. The value of the column is in the comparison of species. In the whole table, the accuracy and value of the figures is probably greatest for the numerous species. There is not sufficient data to make the status of the scarcer species clear. However, as a general indication all values are useful.

The figures of Table I having to do with abundance (column III) are probably too low. First of all, the ducks occurring along streams and tiniest ponds are not included. Also, the area of inland water has been growing since 1940 with formation of new lakes. In this it is assumed that new water areas will attract new ducks from coastal and other areas. Although this assumption may be invalid, it is substantiated by the constancy of populations on some studied inland lakes at a time when national duck populations have declined markedly. It seems reasonable also that ducks will fill their northern winter range first wherever it is suitable. In this connection an interesting observation was made in February, 1940, when a hard freeze coated inland water solidly with ice for over a week. The ducks at Chapel Hill did not depart or decrease. Some kept a hole open in the center of the lake; others spread into the free water of creek rapids throughout the countryside. Too, inland lakes often have habitats and cover like the northern nesting grounds. It is most important that some newly constructed lakes seem to acquire a winter waterfowl population immediately if disturbance isn't great.

Table II is a summary of the data on hand on dates of arrivals and departures. (Additional significant dates undoubtedly exist in personal records of many observers and should be published.) Some of the dates are obviously no indication of the migration departures or arrivals but are included in scarce species when the bird was never observed in the early or late parts of the wintering season. Blanks in the table mean that pertinent data is not available to the writer. Breeding information, sporadic summer data, and special winter dates are included:

TABLE II.—WATERFOWL DATA FOR INLAND NORTH CAROLINA.
NOTE: Parentheses () indicate unusual dates.

Species	Chapel Hill	Raleigh	Greensboro	Asheville	Others
Common Loon	17 Nov.-22 May	13 May			Durham, 11 June
Red-throated Loon	1 December				
Horned Grebe	2 Oct.-18 April	6 January	18 Nov.-26 March	Charlotte, 1 Nov.	
Pied-billed Grebe	5 Sept.-20 May		1 Aug.-4 April		
Double-crested Cormorant	31 Oct.-4 May	19 May			
Whistling Swan	(11 & 28 Dec.)	(January, 1914)			
Canada Goose	24 Nov.-11 Dec.	16 October			
Snow Goose (Gr.)					
Mallard	16 Oct.-29 April	22 December	31 Oct.-21 March	SN. & A. Ansonville	4 April
Black Duck	23 Oct.-1 July (5 Sept.; 1, 17 June)	19 October	3 Oct.-16 March		
Gadwall	9 Nov.-4 April	10 Dec.-27 April	2 Oct.-24 March	PINTAIL Charlotte	31 Dec.-
Baldpate	27 Oct.-25 April (14 June)	27 Oct.-24 March	6 Nov.-29 April	W. O. Lumberton: 8 eggs	10 Feb.
Pintail	24 Nov.-17 March	25 Nov.-17 April			
Green-winged Teal	1 Dec.-13 April				
Blue-winged Teal	5 Sept.-7 May (19 Feb.)	2 Sept.-18 Sept. 19 May	23 April	REDHEAD Young, 1 May	
				BUFILEDIO Durham, 31 July	
Shoveller	18 Nov.-17 April	25 Nov.-17 April	1 April	H. M. Rocky Mt., female &	
Wood Duck	Young out of nest: 18 April-7 May			young, 9 May	
Red-head	26 Dec.-4 May	23 Nov.-11 Jan.	16 Dec.-27 April		
Ring-neck Duck	21 Nov.-24 April	26 Oct.-15 April	25 Nov.-30 March		
Canvasback	27 Oct.-10 March	23 Nov.-28 Feb.			
Scaup	6 Nov.-6 May (27 Dec.)	26 Oct.- (1 June)	27 Oct.-8 May (4 Aug.-24 July)		
Golden-eye	17 Nov.-2 Apr	18 Nov.-5 May	29 Dec.-27 April		
Bufflehead	17 Nov.-24 March	22 Nov.-15 April	29 Nov.-27 Jan.		8 April
Old Squaw	23 December	18 Nov.-30 March			
Ruddy Duck	24 Dec.-4 Feb	26 Oct.-17 April	27 Oct.-10 March		
Hooded Merganser	5 Nov.-28 April	4 Nov.-15 March	25 Dec.-27 April		
American Merganser	22 Dec.-4 May	11 Dec.-11 April	25 Dec.-27 April		
Red-breasted Merganser	23 Dec.-24 April	18 Nov.-8 May	18 Nov.-5 May		
Coot	27 Oct.-24 April	26 Oct.-1 March	2 March		16 November

Most of the waterfowl occurring are winter residents. The dates above indicate the arrival of the earliest individuals of most species in late October and early November. Departure of the stragglers occurs in last of April or May. In 1940 at Chapel Hill the number of ducks present doubled during the spring migration, with a peak of numbers on March 16th. Following are notable exceptions to the generalization above.

Wood Ducks breed regularly at least in the eastern section of inland North Carolina. Large flocks of Wood Ducks may occur in this region in winter. Double-crested Cormorant, Black Duck, Baldpate, Redhead, Scaup, and Common Loon have been recorded inland in summer. Snow Geese are generally coastal but occur sporadically inland as at Ansonville in winter.

Blue-winged Teal occur mainly as spring and fall transients, although a few turn up in inland North Carolina in winter; some winter regularly in South Carolina. Hooded Merganser is a scarce breeder inland. Because of the irregularity of stragglers, these dates cannot be used to compare migrations of different species except where differences are large and the data are consistent. However, it seems clear that of the six most frequently occurring species, the order of arrivals in most localities is probably: Pied-billed Grebe, Black Duck, Mallard, Ring-necked Duck, Hooded Merganser, Bufflehead. The order of departure of these species is probably: Bufflehead, Ring-necked Duck, Hooded Merganser, Mallard, Black Duck, Pied-billed Grebe.

SUMMARY

1. Using 25 winter censuses at Chapel Hill an estimate of 42,000 wintering waterfowl is made for inland North Carolina.
2. Using data of 40 censuses from central North Carolina, the waterfowl are seen to have definite species variations in abundance, frequency, and flocking tendency, that fit the species into 5 classes. The estimates of numbers are extended to each species.
3. Accumulated migration data clarifies the status of many waterfowl. Most are winter residents, a few species breed, one is mostly transient, and a few have been found sporadically as in summer.

SOURCES

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Odum, E. P., Edmund Taylor, Coit Coker, and Arnold Breckenridge, *Birds of Chapel Hill, North Carolina*. Journal Elisha Mitchell Sci. Soc., Vol. LI, No. 2, pp. 312-340, December 1935.
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(Jan. 12, 1947.)

Spring and Fall Migration of Warblers

C. S. BRIMLEY

The following data on the spring and fall migration of transient Warblers in North Carolina may be of interest to readers of *The Chat*. The data apply to the region east of the mountains but cannot be said to apply with certainty to all that region. It will be noticed that in most cases the spring migration period is much shorter than the fall period.

Golden-winged Warbler. Spring, April 27 to May 7, 10 days; August 25 to September 5, 14 days.

Blue-winged Warbler. Spring, April 26 to May 17, 21 days; fall, August 20 to September 26, 37 days.

Nashville Warbler. April 27 to May 12, 15 days; September 9 to October 17, 38 days.

Tennessee Warbler. May 2 to May 10, 9 days August 29 to October 29, 61 days.

Magnolia Warbler. April 29 to May 19, 20 days; September 11 to October 20, 39 days.

Cape May Warbler. April 22 to May 14, 22 days; September 26 to November 1, 36 days. There are isolated spring dates of April 7 at Raleigh (collected specimen), and of April 10 at Charlotte, but all the other spring dates fall within the period given.

Black-throated Green Warbler. April 22 to May 24, 32 days; September 6 to October 16, 41 days. Extra early dates of March 22 at Raleigh and of March 25 at Washington, refer to the biological race of the species which breeds in the cypress swamps of the Carolinas and not to the typical form breeding in the north.

Black-throated Blue Warbler. April 18 to May 19, 31 days; September 16 to October 24, 38 days.

Blackburnian Warbler. April 27 to May 14, 17 days; August 25 to October 27, 63 days.

Chestnut-sided Warbler. April 27 to May 15, 18 days; August 25 to October 14, 56 days.

Blackpoll Warbler. April 26 to June 3, 38 days; September 24 to November 5, 44 days.

Water Thrush (Northern). April 18 to May 28, 40 days; July 25 to October 12, 79 days.

Wilson's Warbler. May 4 to 19, 15 days; August 29 to September 16, 18 days.

Canada Warbler. May 2 to 18, 16 days; August 29 to September 16, 18 days.

(May 20, 1946.)

Bird Notes From Lower Cape Fear

T. GILBERT PEARSON

Osprey—On November 2, 1941, three Ospreys were seen fishing near Smith's Island. The next day at Orton Pond we found that all the members of the large summer colony of Ospreys seemed to have departed with the exception of a single

individual. Knowledge as to how long this species lingers in the State in autumn is as yet quite limited.

Bald Eagle.—Six adults were noted circling together over the river between Battery Island and Fort Caswell on this date.

Florida Gallinule.—Six Florida Gallinules in immature plumage were observed in an extensive shallow lake on Pleasant Oaks Plantation between Orton and Wilmington. The environs were such as to suggest that they have been hatched here. This would appear to be a place where some bird student might hopefully search for the eggs or newly-hatched young of this species. If such evidence of breeding was discovered, it would establish the third locality where this Gallinule has been known to lay its eggs in the State. The two places in North Carolina where such discoveries have been made to date are Lake Ellis and Cape Hatteras.

Mr. F. B. Adams, owner of the interesting Pleasant Oak Plantation, maintains his large holdings virtually as a bird preserve and he took much pleasure in showing me the flocks of 100 or more Wood Ducks inhabiting his watered areas. Coots and Black-crowned Night Herons were among the other water-birds noted on November 2, 1941.

Oyster-catcher.—Near Bald Head on Smith's Island two flocks of these birds were seen November 2, 1941. One contained 40 individuals and the other was estimated to number about 120. Each group was flying in rank formation which undulated back and forth, as portions of the line lagged or pushed ahead of the others. It seemed reasonable to suppose that such flocking of ordinarily non-social birds indicated a preparation for launching on a migratory flight. This was the first occasion I had ever seen Oyster-catchers in the United States assembled in any such numbers, although sizable flocks are reported by Andrew H. DuPre, Manager of the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge on the South Carolina coast, where some also pass the winter. We have no record of their wintering in North Carolina but the mouth of the Cape Fear River is only some 120 miles northward from Cape Romain, and bird students visiting the Southport region in winter might well keep on the lookout for them.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.—Two specimens of this little bird were noted November 3, in oak trees shading a street in Southport. It would seem possible that this may be another locality where this common summer resident may rarely remain throughout the colder months of the year.

New York, N. Y., Nov. 25, 1941.

Field Notes and News

CAPE MAY WARBLERS AT HIGHLANDS, N. C.: Hundreds of Cape May Warblers were seen May 4-6, 1946, feeding on the seeds of the Balsam trees in the yard of the Edwards Hotel. Residents reported large flocks all over town, particularly where there were Balsam trees. This is the first known record of Cape May Warblers for Highlands.

(Jan. 15, 1947.)

THELMA HOWELL, *Highlands Biological Laboratory*

ALBINO BLUE JAY AT RALEIGH, N. C.: An albino Blue Jay was seen on January 5, 1947, in the vicinity of 2718 Clark Avenue, Raleigh, N. C. The bird

was completely white, and at the distance observed the bill and eyes appeared to be pink. The albino was with a flock of ten other regularly colored Jays and its behavior seemed entirely normal. The albino was seen a second time on January 14, again in the company of a small flock of normal Blue Jays.

TITUS STUART CRITCHER, N. C. State College.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY, N. C.: Here are a few notes for the March *Chat* if the dead line hasn't been passed:

Prairie Horned Lark.—A male of this species was brought to me on January 11, 1947. It had been shot in an open, freshly ploughed field just six miles east of Charlotte. The flock was estimated to number forty to fifty individuals. Apparently this is the species that has been observed frequently in Mecklenburg County this winter.—CHAMBERLAIN.

Wilson's Snipe.—Six birds were flushed on February 8, 1947, from a flat wet pasture along Little Sugar Creek at Pineville, N. C. On February 16, twelve of these birds were jumped from the same field, which offered no cover other than dead grass scarcely higher than the birds heads. On the latter date the field was well frozen over. This location is approximately one mile north of the South Carolina line.—LAYTON, MOON, CHAMBERLAIN.

Blue Goose, Redhead, Green-winged Teal.—Single individuals observed at length and at close range on February 16, 1947, at Lockhart Gaddy's pond at Ansonville, N. C., together with 1500 or more Canada geese. A large number of the latter appeared to us to be entirely too small to be *Branta canadensis*. (See *Chat*, vol. XI, No. 1, p. 16, A.D.S.) The Blue Goose noted above was probably the banded bird recorded in that article.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT IV., CHAMBERLAIN.

Black Ducks.—A flock of thirteen was flushed from McAlpine Creek at a point about five miles south of the N.C.-S.C. state line on February 16, 1947. The creek here is less than thirty feet wide and heavily wooded on both sides.—LAYTON, MOON, CHAMBERLAIN.

Great Horned Owl.—A female with a wing-spread of 57 inches was brought to me to be mounted on February 25, 1947. It had been killed within a few miles of Columbia, S. C. Scarcity of feathers over the abdomen indicated that the bird was nesting.—JIM LAYTON.

(March 2, 1947.)

B. R. CHAMBERLAIN, Charlotte, N. C.

REDPOLLS SEEN AT GREENSBORO, N. C.: Miss Etta Schiffman reported during Christmas week that she had observed what she took to be a Redpoll. On January 7th and 10th, I observed a female Redpoll at distances of 30 and 50 feet, with 8x40 binoculars. On February 6, Mrs. Floyd Hugh Craft reported seeing Redpolls at her home near Greensboro. On February 8, I observed, at Mrs. Craft's home, a male Redpoll, at a distance of 15 ft. Male Redpolls have also been observed by Mrs. H. L. Medford, H. L. Medford, Jr., and T. L. Townsend. The earliest date was December 28, 1946, the latest was February 8, 1947.

JOHN CARR.

RED PHALAROPE AT LENOIR, N. C.: On January 1, 1947, Mrs. C. S. Warren, of Lenoir, N. C. picked up alive near her home in Lenoir a peculiar looking bird. She fed it and it lived for 3 or 4 days and then died. She brought it to

the North Carolina State Museum at Raleigh January 8th, and along with the museum officials we identified it as the Red Phalarope. This is an interesting record so far inland. These birds are chiefly maritime birds and may be looked for in the ocean off our coast, as they seldom come near the coast during migration. However, on occasion they are diverted off their course by storms and weather conditions and we have some records along the coastal area and a few inland records. The farthest inland record on the Birds of North Carolina Card Catalogue is Rocky Mount, November 1939, F. H. Craighill. This Lenoir record gives us an extreme western North Carolina locality. I will be glad to have any other records from bird observers to add to the list for this species.

DAVID L. WRAY, Raleigh, N. C.

(Arthur Stupka in *The Chat*, 1945, Vol. 9, No. 1, p. 3, reported a Red Phalarope found dead on December 17, 1944 on the Christmas count at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tenn. —A.D.S.)

HENDERSON, N. C., 1946 Christmas Count (received too late for the January issue of *The Chat*.) Area: farmland and thicket 30%, deciduous woods 30%, pine woods 10%, small pond 10%, creek bottoms 20%. December 23, from 7:15 A.M. to 4:15 P.M. Clear, slight wind in the afternoon, temperature 30°-50°F. Seven observers in two parties. Total hours 10. Birds seen: Turkey Vulture, 12; Black Vulture, 8; Red-shouldered Hawk, 1; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Flicker, 5; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 8; Blue Jay, 1; Crow, 28; Carolina Chickadee, 21; Tufted Titmouse, 7; White-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 1; Brown Creeper, 1; Carolina Wren, 13; Mockingbird, 5; Robin, 1; Bluebird, 14; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 4; Starling, 108; Pine Warbler, 1; English Sparrow, 7; Meadowlark, 21; Red-winged Blackbird, 5; Cowbird, 75; Cardinal 31; Purple Finch, 23; Goldfinch, 97; Towhee, 8; Slate-colored Junco 201; Chipping Sparrow, 2; Field Sparrow, 60; White-throated Sparrow, 74; Fox Sparrow, 3; Song Sparrow, 59. Total: 37 species, 916 individuals. Members of Henderson Bird Club taking part were Mrs. A. W. Bachman, Mrs. T. C. Gill, Mrs. A. J. Davis, Miss Claudia Hunter, Miss Ruth Carter, Miss Garnette Myers, and Miss Mariel Gary.

MATTAMUSKEET NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, New Holland, N. C., 1946 Christmas Count. (Received too late for the January issue of *The Chat*.) Same area as 1940 and subsequent counts: Mattamuskeet Refuge and adjacent woods and fields; including public road across the lake; marsh 30%; open water 40%; fields and thickets 20%; pine and cypress woods 10%; December 28, 1946; 8:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Clear to partly overcast, ground bare; wind SW to W; temp. 52° to 62° F. Eight observers mostly together. Total hours afield 9½; total miles traveled 25 by car, 7 on foot. Piedbilled Grebe, 2; Great Blue Heron, 9; American Egret, 12; Black-crowned Night Heron, 9; Whistling Swan, 250; Canada Goose, 5000; Black Duck, 250; Mallard, 75; Baldpate, 25; Pintail, 500; Green-winged Teal, 45; Wood Duck, 4; Ruddy Duck, 6; Hooded Merganser, 8; American Merganser, 2; Turkey Vulture, 29; Black Vulture, 8; Cooper's Hawk, 5; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, 3; Bob-white, 15; Marsh Hawk, 7; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Bald Eagle, 5; Killdeer, 9; Woodcock, 1; Herring Gull, 20; Ring-billed Gull, 3; Morning Dove, 40; Belted Kingfisher, 4; Flicker, 9; Pileated Woodpecker, 3; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 3; Phoebe, 8; Tree-Swallow, 250; Crow, 125; Carolina Chickadee, 9; Tufted Titmouse, 2; House Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 10; Mockingbird; 4; Cat-

bird, 13; Brown Thrasher, 1; Robin, 4; Blue Bird, 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 1; Starling, 52; Myrtle Warbler, 1,500; English Sparrow, 40; Meadowlark, 16; Redwing, 3,000; Purple Grackle, 35; Cowbird, 6; Cardinal, 7; Purple Finch, 14; Goldfinch, 9; Towhee, 9; Slate-colored Junco, 35; Field Sparrow, 6; White-throated Sparrow, 7; Fox Sparrow, 2; Swamp Sparrow, 6; Song Sparrow, 9. Total 65 species, 11,560 individuals. Observers eight: R. L. Wolff, Dick Barden, Frank Stallings, and Mac Godwin, Goldsboro, N. C., all North Carolina Bird Club members, made trip to Mattamuskeet purposely for the census. Willie G. Cahoon, Edward J. McKinney, Warren Lupton, and Linwood B. Tunnell, all of New Holland, N. C., also participated in the count.

With the Editor

MORE HUNTERS: The army of American hunters reached an all time high last year, 9,854,313, which, according to The New York Times (Feb. 23, 1947), is a 20% increase over 1945, the increase coming mostly from discharged service men.

NOW, ALL TOGETHER: Birds hate grain dyed red or purple though rats don't mind the color, states *McCall's* (January 1947, p. 8), quoting the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service . . . Birds were kept from eating rodent pest baits by dyeing the poisoned grain bright green or yellow, is the statement from *Science News Letter* (December 21, 1946, p. 392.)

FIELD TRIP TO MORROW MOUNTAIN: Charlotte's Mecklenburg Audubon Club has set May 16th and 17th for a regional field trip to Morrow Mountain State Park. B. R. Chamberlain is preparing a mimeographed sheet of directions which will include a map of the region, which will be sent to those interested. Write to B. R. Chamberlain, 1320 Biltmore Drive, Charlotte, N. C., or to Miss Sarah M. Nooe, Secretary, Queens College, Charlotte.

CLINARD TALKS TO HICKORY GROUPS: J. Weston Clinard, president of the Hickory Bird Club, and Vice-President of the North Carolina Bird Club, talked before the Hickory Rotarians, on January 23rd, giving them an outline of the background of ornithology and related studies. Among other interesting things he mentioned was the debt which early ornithologists and naturalists in the western United States owed to the U.S. Army, which they joined and used as a safe way of travel. On Thursday evening, February 6th, Clinard entertained the Hickory Lions club with his varied program of bird imitations and other imitations.

NESTING GOURDS, AND MORE GOURDS: A recent communication from Geo. Wagener Gyles, P. O. Box 102, Blackville, S. C., states that he has for sale, large and small gourds for martins and various birds, prices according to the size of gourds desired . . . Milton Lanier, of Beulaville, N. C., writes that he has plenty of large gourds for martins. He does not know what price to ask, but says, "send what you think they are worth." . . . Mrs. L. M. Wooten, R.F.D., Camilla Ga., had a few martin gourds which she offered for twenty-five cents each . . . W. R. Chavis, R.F.D., Lumberton, N. C., has recently delivered to Greensboro's Purple Martin expert, Dr. Wesley Taylor, a dozen solid and smooth gourds, averaging about 7 to 8 inchers inside diameter, for \$3.00, express prepaid.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM FOR NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE N. C. B. C.

ATLANTIC BEACH, N. C. MAY 2, 3, 4, 1947

(HEADQUARTERS: Ocean Drive Hotel. All trips organized here. (*Note change.*)

REGISTRATION: From 1:00 P.M. Friday, through 6:00 P.M. Saturday in lobby of Ocean Drive Hotel, Atlantic Beach. (*Note change.*)

FRIDAY, MAY 2

4:00-6:00 P.M.—Informal bird walks on beach; swimming.

6:00-8:00 P.M.—Supper (wherever the individuals so desire.)

8:00 P. M.—till—Informal get together at Ocean Drive Hotel. Showing of amateur movies and 2x2 Kodachromes. *Bring your wildlife pictures.* (16mm. movie and 2x2 still projectors will be provided.) Assignments will be made for Saturday field trips.

SATURDAY, MAY 3

Before breakfast trips are optional.

9:00 A.M.-12:00 M.—Field trips to various localities, each group with at least one good leader, familiar with the region.

(12:00-1:30 P.M.—Dinner meeting of Executive Committee.)

2:30 P.M.—Business session of entire club, Ocean King Hotel. Brief reports of officers; election of officers. Presentation of papers (several excellent papers by experienced ornithologists are in prospect.)

5:30-7:00 P.M.—Swim and get ready for banquet.

7:00 P.M.—ANNUAL DINNER, Ocean King Hotel. (*Read Important Note below.*) Colored moving pictures and lecture by CARL W. BUCHHEISTER, Vice-President of the National Audubon Society. (Announcement of Sunday field trips.)

SUNDAY, MAY 4

At daybreak, field trips, to be announced. 8:30-10:30 A. M., and 10:30 A.M.-

12:30 P.M.—Field trips, different types changed at 10:30 where desirable.

Lists of hotels and tourist homes available at Atlantic Beach and Morehead City have been mailed to all members. All reservations for hotel and tourist home accommodations are to be made and confirmed directly by each individual attending.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Do you plan to attend the ANNUAL DINNER MEETING Saturday evening, May 3rd, at the Ocean King Hotel? Plates are \$1.75 each. If you have not already sent in your reservations, you should send them at once to: Mrs. O. F. Jensen, President North Carolina Bird Club, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Mrs. Harry T. Davis,
102 Logan Court,
Raleigh, N. C.

LOCAL CLUBS AND THEIR OFFICERS

Arden, Rosscraggon Wood, Inc.: P—Miss Margaret Atkins, Skyland; V-P—Miss Jenny Fleetwood Westfeldt, Arden; S-T—Major V. M. Shell, Arden; Board of Governors—H. B. Swope, Skyland; W. H. Lashley, Asheville; Miss Susan Shepard, Skyland.

Asheville Bird Club: P—R. H. Rembert; V-P—Miss Margaret Decker; S—Mrs. M. F. Meredith, 10 Castle St.; T—Mrs. Francis E. Field.

Blowing Rock, Blowing Rock Audubon Club: P—Miss Lena Reeves; V-P—Mrs. Joe Winkler.

Boone Bird Club: P—Dr. Robert King; V-P—Mrs. W. M. Burwell; S-T—Miss Cora Jeffcoat.

Chapel Hill Bird Club: P—Mrs. Harold Walters; V-P and Census Supervisor—Howard T. Odum; S-T—Mrs. David Olson; Publicity Chairman—Mrs. Horace Crockford.

Charlotte, Mecklenburg Audubon Club: P—B. Rhett Chamberlain, 1320 Biltmore Drive; V-P—Miss Anne Locke and Mrs. George Potter; S—Miss Connie Thigpen, 1215 Greenwood Cliff; T—Mrs. W. B. Simons.

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Greensboro, Piedmont Bird Club: P—Miss Etta Schiffman; V-P—Mrs. W. C. Carr and Kenneth Wible; Rec. S—Mrs. R. D. Douglas; T—Miss Sarah Lesley; Cor. S—Mrs. J. S. Teague; Ex. Comm.—Officers and Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury and Dr. Charlotte Dawley.

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Lumberton Bird Club: P—James Stephens, Jr.; V-P—Mrs. Henry McKinnon; S—Mrs. D. L. Whiting; T—Miss Lillian Whiting.

Mount Airy Bird Club: P—Mrs. J. Bruce Yokley; V-P—O. W. Kochtitsky; S—Mrs. H. G. Long; T—Fred Johnson.

Raleigh Bird Club: P—Mrs. A. J. Skaale; V-P—Dr. David L. Wray; S—Frank B. Meacham, N. C. State Museum; Ex-Comm.—Officers, and Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green and Harry T. Davis.

Roanoke Rapids Bird Club: P—Mrs. A. O. Pendleton, R 1, Bolling Rd.; V-P—Miss Clara Hearne; S-T—Mrs. T. L. O'Briant, 538 Vance St.

Rocky Mount, Francis H. Craighill Bird Club: P—J. W. E. Joyner; V-P—Charles Benbow; S—Miss Martha Clark; T—Miss Lilly Shearin.

Southern Pines Bird Club: P—Mary Keller Wintyen; V-P & S—Miss Louise Haynes; T. & Rec. Sec.—Miss Norma Shiring.

Statesville Audubon Club: P—Miss Nancy B. Eliason; V-P—Miss Grace Anderson; S—Mrs. Calhoun Ramsey; T—Mrs. Earl Davis.

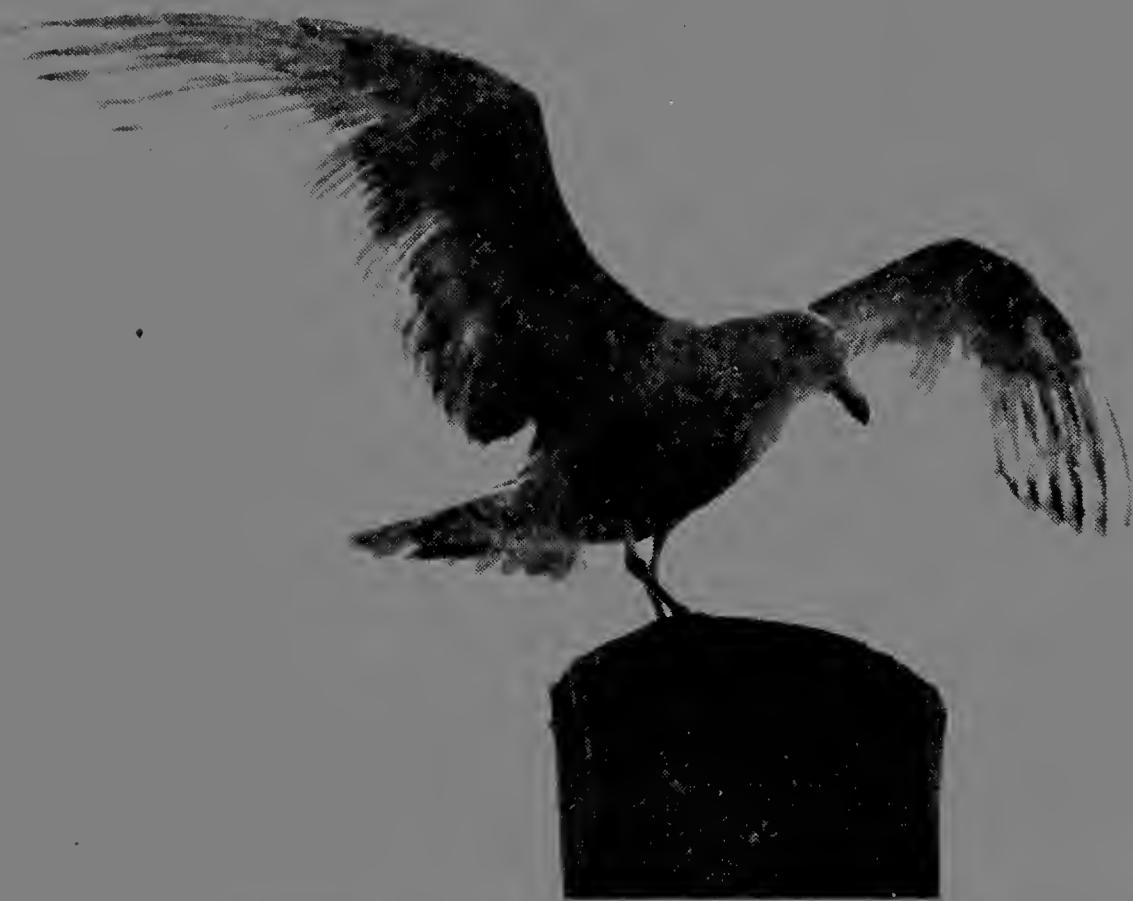
Tryon Bird Club: P—G. H. Holmes; S-T—Katherine D. Hamilton.

Wilmington Bird Club: P—Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, 5 Lake Forest Parkway; Honorary President—Theodore G. Empie; V-P—Miss Helen Lovering; S—Miss Marjorie Voss, 149 Woodlawn Ave.; T—Warwick R. Baker; Sec. Jr. Work—Mrs. Warwick R. Baker.

Winston-Salem Bird Club: P—Henry Magie; S-T—Wm. S. Rothrock, 2434 Stockton St.; Directors—Charles H. Babcock, Thurmond Chatham, Jr., Richard J. Reynolds, II.

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB



Morehead City's Official Greeter, "Gentle Joe"

VOL. XI

MAY, 1947

No. 3

PUBLISHED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB
Greensboro, N. C.

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

DR. ARCHIE D. SHAFTESBURY, *Editor*

Woman's College of University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.

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Tenth Anniversary Meeting Held at Atlantic Beach

Numerous interesting field trips by car, afoot, and by boat, the presentation of some excellent papers, and the presence of several nationally known bird authorities—these were some of the features which made the 1947 spring meeting of the North Carolina Bird Club, held May 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, at Atlantic Beach, N. C., outstanding among the many splendid annual meetings which the club has held during the ten years of its history. The featured guest speaker of the meeting was Carl W. Buchheister, Vice-president of the National Audubon Society. Among other widely known bird students who attended the meeting were: Alexander Sprunt, Jr., Charleston, S. C., southern representative of the National Audubon Society; E. B. Chamberlain, herpetologist, mammalogist, and ornithologist at the Charleston (S. C.) Museum; Dr. Richard L. Weaver, Chapel Hill, former director of the Audubon Nature Center at Greenwich, Conn., and recently appointed program director for the North Carolina Resource-Use Education Commission; Roxie Collie Simpson, formerly of Raleigh, and now with the National Museum, Washington, D. C.; and our own Charlotte Hilton Green, Raleigh, whose books and locally and nationally published feature articles on birds and other nature subjects are widely enjoyed.

Mrs. O. F. Jensen, Chapel Hill, was re-elected president of the North Carolina Bird Club; B. R. Chamberlain, of Charlotte, J. Weston Clinard, of Hickory, and Robert Wolff, of Goldsboro, were re-elected vice-presidents; Dr. Richard L. Weaver, Chapel Hill, was elected secretary; Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, Greensboro, was re-elected treasurer; Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, Greensboro, was re-elected editor of *The Chat*; and Mrs. Cecil M. Appleberry, Wilmington and Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green, Raleigh, were elected as members at large of the executive committee.

On Friday afternoon, May 2, informal field trips were held when the first members began to arrive. Over 100 members attended the meetings. On Friday evening, at the headquarters at the Ocean Drive Hotel, a get together was held and various members showed movies and Kodachrome slides of wild life. Included on this interesting informal program were colored slide pictures shown by Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Jensen, Chapel Hill, and John Trott, Jr., New London; colored moving pictures taken by O. F. Jensen, and by J. W. E. Joyner, Rocky Mount; and a selection of Audubon pictures shown by Carl W. Buchheister.

Following is a list of the papers which were presented at the Saturday afternoon session:

"History and Status of North American Waterfowl," Harry T. Davis, N. C. Museum, Raleigh.

"Some Suggestion on Field Techniques of Bird Study," Richard Weaver, Resource-Use Education Commission, Chapel Hill.

"Winter Waterfowl Of Lake Johnson, Raleigh, N. C.," Robert Overing, Raleigh.

"Nature and the Child," Charlotte Hilton Green, Raleigh.

"Observation Intensity in Phenology Studies," Elizabeth Jones, Duke University, Durham.

"Use of *The Chat* for Publication of Observations," Archie D. Shaftesbury, Woman's College, U. N. C., Greensboro.

"Recent Bird Records at Greensboro," George A. Smith, Greensboro.

"Recent Records at Wilmington, N. C.," Edna Lanier Appleberry, Wilmington.

"Needed Bird Nesting Records," David L. Wray, N. C. Dept. of Agriculture, Raleigh.

"Nesting Habits of Grasshopper Sparrow in Stanly County, N. C.," John Trott, New London.

"Observation Notes from Eastern North Carolina," Bob Holmes III, Mount Olive.

"Present Status of Water Fowl in Raleigh, N. C.," Norman McCullough, Raleigh.

"Summary of Breeding Census Work in the Southeast," Howard T. Odum, Chapel Hill.

Special mention is merited for the particularly excellent papers which were presented by three of the younger members, John Trott, Bob Holmes III, and Norman (Sandy) McCullough.

The dinner meeting Saturday night featured National Audubon Society Vice-president Carl W. Buchheister, and over 100 members were present and enjoyed his stimulating talk and beautiful colored motion pictures on the theme, "Out-of-Doors in New England." Mr. Buchheister, whose work includes directing the Maine Audubon Camp, showed also, a short reel of just released colored pictures of last summer's camp and campers, which was of special interest since the North Carolina Bird Club has recently decided to give a \$100 scholarship to some N. C. B. C. member to attend the Maine Audubon Nature Camp this summer.

In the president's report, which was presented at the dinner meeting Saturday evening, Mrs. Jensen outlined briefly some of the main points of emphasis in the work of the club during the past year. Local clubs have been encouraged to include the state fee in their dues so that every local member would automatically become a member of the state club. State membership has increased somewhat, and is now well above 700. One new life membership has been added. Coordination of the work of the N. C. B. C. in the various parts of the state has been aided by the appointment of four regional chairmen under each of the state chairmen. Two successful state field trips to Orton with 90 present, and to Mattamuskeet, with 100 present, were conducted during the year. Audubon screen tours were conducted at Asheville and Charlotte, the latter so successful financially that the Mecklenburg Audubon Club starts the new year with \$200 in their treasury. Raleigh and Mount Airy have recently become municipal sanctuaries. We now consider ourselves large enough that our treasurer is to be bonded. A one hundred dollar scholarship has been approved to send a member this summer to the Audubon Nature Camp in Maine. The scholarship committee has been headed by Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green, as chairman. Mrs.

Jensen praised *The Chat*, and stated that the tenth anniversary issue shows the growth which is taking place. The report also included mention of some of the plans for the coming year.

Various methods of travel were used for the multiple of field trips, but boat trips were definitely the most popular. Part of the interesting boat trips in the Beaufort harbor and adjacent sound regions in the vicinity of Shackleford Banks were through the courtesy of Dr. Harold J. Humm, resident investigator in charge at the Duke Marine Laboratory at Beaufort, N. C., and to Dr. H. F. Prytherch, director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Laboratory, at Beaufort. The three-hour boat trip Sunday morning was one of the real features of the meeting. All together, during the three days, over 100 species of birds were observed in the Atlantic Beach-Morehead City-Beaufort region.

Since there was no local organization in the Beaufort-Morehead City region to act as hosts and make local arrangements for this meeting, much more work was placed on members in other parts of the state, and the splendid success of the enthusiastic meeting is due to the faithful work of many members of the club who assisted the officers and chairmen of the various committees. The splendid spirit among the large group of the N. C. B. C. is something of which North Carolina can be justly proud.

Bird Islands of Beaufort, N. C.

T. L. QUAY

Beaufort harbor is a small shallow harbor of about six square miles, containing several sand and shell islands or "lumps" created from channel-dredging, well-developed salt marshes, and extensive sandy shoals exposed at low tide. The town of Beaufort lies on the inside, opposite the narrow inlet flanked by Bogue and Shackleford Banks.

Piver's Island, just across the channel from the Beaufort waterfront, is the home of both the United States Bureau of Fisheries Research Laboratory and the Duke University Marine Biological Station. Its central location affords quick access to the many habitats available. We stayed at the Duke Station throughout June, July, August and September, 1946. During the course of other investigations, there was daily opportunity for observing birds. The following notes are limited to the maritime birds nesting and feeding within the six square miles of harbor proper.

Immediately above the Newport River bridge is a string of dredge-heap islands, the second of which was the nesting site of a breeding colony composed of: Black Skimmer—240 pair; Least Tern—80 pair; Common Tern—22 pair; Gull-billed Tern—6 pair; Wilson Plover—12 pair. All the nests were depressions in the bare sand, except that the Common and Gull-billed Terns lined theirs with bits of shell. Six nests of the Com-

mon Tern and three nests of the Gull-billed Tern, each with one or two eggs, were identified on June 30; some of these nests still had eggs in mid-July. The Black Skimmer nests on June 30 displayed the full range from 1 to 4 eggs to 1 to 4 chicks; by July 15 nesting was near completion and the chicks were up to one-half grown. The height of nesting activity for the Least Terns and Wilson Plovers was mid-June and the young were on the wing in July. While the nests of each species were somewhat grouped, the total area covered was only the topmost four acres. In colony defense the approximately 600 individuals milled around in the air over the nests as a group, but with the Skimmers near the ground at 1-10 feet, the Common Terns the highest at 100-500 feet, and the others in between.

Shark Shoal is a sand and shell island of 150 acres, bare except for scattered pioneer herbaceous vegetation and fringing salt marsh. Over the top 40 acres was spread a colony of 125 pair of Least Terns, 4 pair of Common Terns, 2 pair of Gull-billed Terns and 18 pair of Wilson Plovers. There were no Skimmers here and the Least Tern nests were farther apart, no nest being closer than eleven feet to another. The young were on the wing by early July. In spite of frequent and heavy rains, the nesting season was successful both in this and the Newport River colony.

The only colonial birds nesting on Town Marsh were 6 pair of Wilson Plovers. This may have been due to the small extent of bare sand areas and to the proximity of Beaufort and Piver's Island. Likewise, the only coastal birds nesting on Piver's Island were 40 pair of Boat-tailed Grackles, in the cedars around the U.S. Fisheries laboratory.

One mile east of Beaufort, at Lennoxville, a colony of herons occupied the same bay thicket used in previous years: Snowy Egret—60 pair; Louisiana Heron—50 pair; Little Blue Heron—40 pair; Black-crowned Night Heron—16 pair. The herons were present as early as April 6, had eggs from late April to early June, young in nest June and July and nearly all flying in August. The nests were 10-15 feet high, 2-5 feet apart, and all four species intermingled. The birds from this colony fed in several directions, including Beaufort harbor.

Eight additional species were present in small numbers during June and July, the main portion of the nesting season; August was complicated with returning migrants. Three Clapper Rail nests were found in the marshes, just above the high tide mark. One pair of Oyster-catchers gave every indication of having a nest on the south end of Shark Shoal, but I

couldn't find it. One lone pair of Long-billed Marsh Wrens fledged a brood in the *Spartina alterniflora*. Seaside Sparrows nested throughout the marsh edges. Several Fish Crows were around every day. About 20 Laughing Gulls, 4 Royal Terns and 6 Caspian Terns visited daily and immatures appeared in late July. They apparently nested farther up the Newport River. The Caspian Terns were positively identified, being seen daily and at close range, often feeding in company with Royals, Commons and Gull-bills. The Caspian Terns were frequently seen to catch fish, then fly, fish in bill, up the Newport River beyond the bridge and on out of sight. There presumably were nests nearby, and if so this would be the first recorded instance in North Carolina; they have been reported breeding locally in South Carolina and Virginia. The only other record to my knowledge of Common Terns breeding as far south as Beaufort on the Atlantic Coast is by T. Gilbert Pearson in 1939. The Gull-billed Tern is also a rare and local breeder on the North Carolina coast.

The total number of colonial birds nesting and feeding within the six square miles examined amounted to ten species (4 Herons, 1 Skimmer, 3 Terns, 1 Plover, 1 Grackle) and 1430 adult individuals, to which may be added the 52 individuals of four more species (1 Crow, 2 Terns, 1 Gull) which used the harbor for feeding only. The remaining four species were either low in number (Oyster-catcher—1 pair; Long-billed Marsh Wren—1 pair), or of solitary nesting habit (Clapper Rail—3 nests; Seaside Sparrow—many nests). Lumping all types together, the total population regularly present was 1566 individuals of 18 species, for an average of 260 birds per square mile; the ten nesting colonial species alone averaged 238 birds per square mile. The edges of the islands, the shallow, more or less enclosed waters of the marshes, and the extensive shoal waters seemingly provided abundant feeding and resting grounds for the coast-inhabiting species. Since there also appeared to be more suitable nesting sites available than were in use, it is doubtful whether the 1946 summer resident population was near capacity.

*Department of Zoology and Entomology North Carolina State College
Raleigh, North Carolina, Feb. 6, 1947.*

BUCHHEISTER TO LECTURE IN NORTH CAROLINA NEXT SPRING: Carl W. Buchheister, talented and popular vice-president of the National Audubon Society, will give a limited number of lectures in North Carolina early next year. If your local club has not arranged for the Audubon Screen Tours series, you would do well to arrange for a lecture-entertainment by Buchheister if dates are still available. Write at once to: National Audubon Society, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York 28, N. Y.

Observations on Birding North and South of the 39th Parallel

LOUIS C. FINK, Augusta, Ga. and Rutherford, N. J.

Since the two English astronomers, Mason and Dixon, ran their famous survey to determine the southern boundary of Pennsylvania in 1767, the Mason-Dixon Line has been used as a dividing marker on all sorts of political and economic questions.

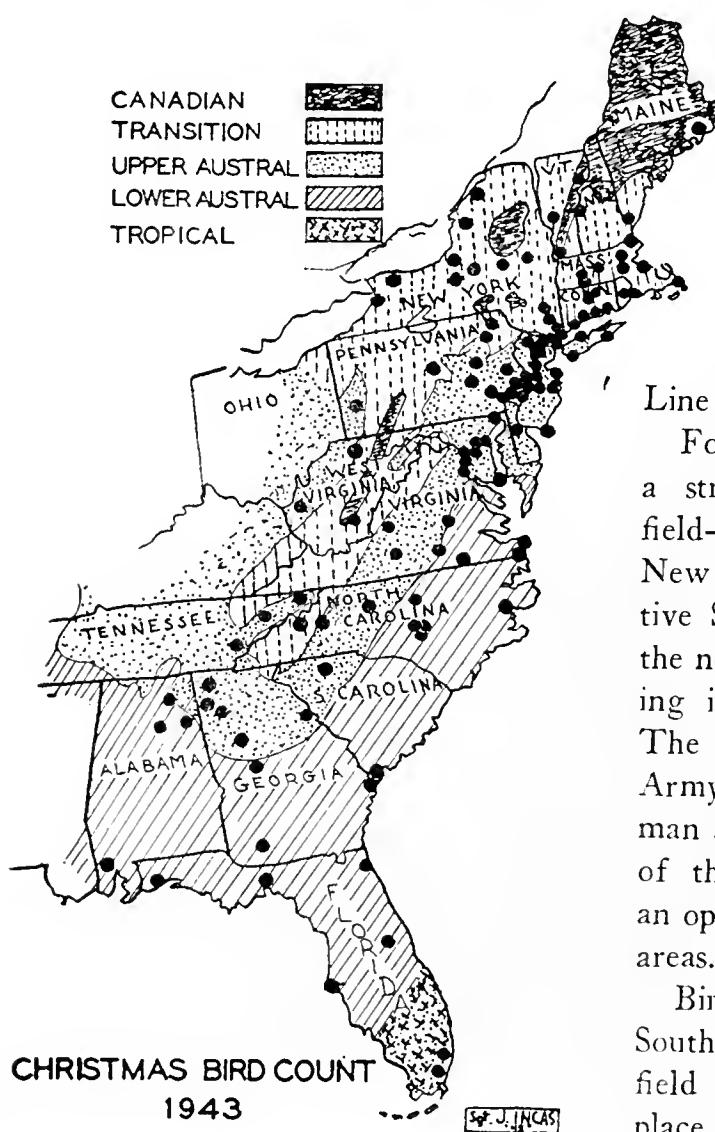
The line has a mystical importance, and there are many above and

below it who think it is drawn only on maps. That is not so, and stone markers from the 240-mile stretch are in existence. The difference in bird study in the two regions are just as apparent to this observer as the

Line itself.

For five years, the writer did a strictly amateur brand of field-work in New Jersey and New York. Then came Selective Service in 1942, and for the next four years he did birding in Virginia and Georgia. The sudden switch, and the Army's generosity in keeping a man at the same post for three of those four years, provided an opportunity to study the two areas.

Bird study is easier in the South, where every plowed field and wood-lot becomes a place of refuge for birds. Except for small areas which are



too well shot over by hunters, it is possible to take a leisurely stroll near any Southern town and find an impressive list for the day's work. In the North, the same day means a bout with transportation facilities, difficulties

over posted land, and the unquestioned drawback of fewer hours of sunlight.

In Augusta, Georgia, for instance, it is possible to go birding after working hours, during all but two months of the year. The Yankee bird-man must make his observation on Sundays, holidays, and Saturday afternoons. For a few Summer months, he may find enough sunlight in the field after five P. M., but a few months are all.

Birds are undoubtedly more accessible in Dixie. Mockingbirds, cardinals, nuthatches and towhees came to a window-box in a way they have not learned in the North. Big cities have not crowded out the warblers and thrushes from the woods. Better still, in the South each large city is surrounded by open country, accessible in a few minutes' walk. The city-dweller to the North may find a suburb at his city's limits, with more streets and houses beyond.

When it comes to advanced study, however, the tables turn. It is the North which has fine libraries in every town, and museums in abundance. For many, many dwellers in the Southland, study from well-mounted specimens is an impossibility.

People do not organize into clubs below the Line the way they do in the North. There are notable exceptions, of course, but generally speaking, bird clubs do not flourish in the South the way they do in the North. Southerners live in smaller communities (the population density is 64 per square mile as against 212 in the North). They are not such active organizers: if two or three bird-lovers get together in the South, they enjoy their hobby and that is an end to it. Their brothers in the North would have a club going in no time. Not an important difference, except that a convert in the North finds an organization to enter, and it helps to strengthen his interest.

All these general observations of North and South call for a delineation of boundaries, and a study of the results obtained by birders in the two regions. The Mason-Dixon Line forms a handy and ready reference for separating North from South, although admittedly the characteristics of the people flow over the line at many points.

Some interesting deductions are drawn from a study of one of the handiest indices of successful bird-watching: the reports of the Christmas Count as found in the Audubon Magazine's supplement. For a convenient western limit, the Ohio River (and the Cumberland Mountains south of it) are used. The States thus neatly chopped out of the nation are Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New

York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania to the north of the Mason-Dixon Line; and Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Maryland, Delaware, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida to the South.

This entire eastern area represents a little less than half the total population of the country, according to the 1940 census. Because of the concentration of population in the East, a vast share of the nation's bird-study is done in this area.

The Line rather neatly separates the faunal zones, too, for below is mostly Lower Austral, while above the Upper Austral and Transition Zones are found exclusively. Many of the great flyways follow the East coast and pass through the area under study.

The population of the area we call North is about double that of the South: 35 million people to 17 million. That 2-1 ratio is maintained surprisingly well through the reports of Christmas Counts in *The Season*. In the North 562 observers (one in every 64,000) took part in the 1943 Christmas Count as against the South's total of 257 observers (one in every 66,000 people.)

TABLE NO. I

United States of America (continental): *Population*, 131,669,000; *Area*, 3,022,000 square miles; total Audubon Christmas Bird counts in 1943, 265; Christmas counts in 1944, 228.

Population, North: 35,976,000; South 17,910,000.

Area, North: 169,000 sq. mi. South, 278,000 sq. mi.

Number of counts, North: 1943, 67; 1944: 65; South, 1943: 42; 1944: 49.

Observers, North: 1943: 562; 1944: 620; South: 1943, 257; 1944, 282.

Observers, North: 1943, 562; 1944, 620; South, 1943, 257; 1944, 282.

*Total birds, North: 1943: 233,000; 1944: 226,000; South 1943: 132,000; 1944: 147,000.

Birds per observer, North: 1943, 415; 1944, 365; South: 1943, 517; 1944, 523.

There were 68 separate counts made in the North, and 42 in the South. The North loses its 2-1 edge here, and a glance at the map seems to prove that in the populous North the tendency is for large groups to work closely over limited areas near the big cities. In the South, there are smaller groups, doing field work around smaller towns and less populated places.

The 'lone-wolf' counter does not affect the total at all, for one of every four counts, in both North and South, was made by observers working alone or with just one partner.

Weather might be expected to affect the popularity of counting birds at Christmas time. The South has milder temperatures, but a cold raw day

*Concentrations over 10,000 eliminated.

in Georgia can be just as unpleasant to birders there as a freezing weather in the Jersey meadows.

Christmas counting is a little more profitable in the South, with an average of 517 birds seen by each man in the field. Similar workers in the North had only 415 birds per man. The North, with over twice as many observers in the field in 1943, (562 versus 257) reported less than twice as many birds (233,000 against 132,000 in the South.)

It is hard to draw conclusions from these figures during a time when War has made so many changes in the opportunities for scientific studies and recreational hobbies. It is certain that many soldiers are returning to their homes with a greater knowledge of the outdoors, and thousands will seek peace and diversion in the forests and swamps.

If bird study, and its attendant good results in conservation, is to prosper after the War, both North and South need to make some changes. The Southern states need more and better museums, accessible check-lists (The Georgia Ornithological Society has prepared one), increased nature study in the schools, and an increased consciousness of conservation problems.

All this calls for more money, and there are many indications that the South will have an improved economy in the post-War years. Better farm management (The Callaway Plan in Georgia and enlightened Government agencies are doing wonders already), plus cheap hydro-electric power (like the Clark's Hill and Santee-Cooper developments),—these will stabilize and improve the income of the South. Some of that increased wealth will have to be spent on education in conservation.

In the North, the problem is and has been shrinking wilderness areas, housing conditions which make a sense of nearness to nature non-existent, and the tendency to make nature-study an artificial thing. Taking children to a city park is a poor substitute for a week-end spent under tents in the mountains of Vermont or New York. Perhaps the helicopter will help the city-dweller to reach the woods; more likely good roads and increased public ownership of wilderness lands will make the study of wild things easier of achievement.

In both areas, there is a need for more sanctuaries—big ones where breeding birds may be protected against the greatly increased shooting which is following the war; also smaller ones where conservation problems may be explained dramatically. A successful feeding station in a hundred-acre sanctuary will do much to encourage a home-owner to feed birds in his own back-yard. National and state bird organizations should encourage

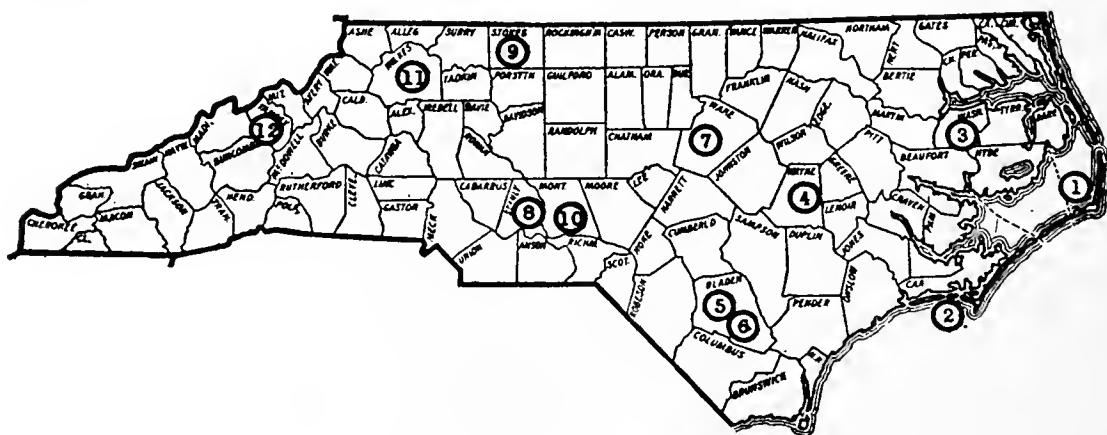
these small sanctuaries, which can be operated by communities, by clubs and by individuals.

Whatever the varying problems in North and South, one or two facts remain unchanging. Bird study, and all the manifestations and problems of Nature which follow in its wake, are equally exciting in New England and Dixie, as they are anywhere in the world. And wherever a bird-watcher goes, there he will find friends with a like interest and a ready welcome—three years of Army wandering have taught this writer that one fact.

Location of N. C. Parks and Recreation Areas

For the benefit of members of the North Carolina Bird Club who are interested in becoming familiar with the natural resources of the State Parks the following information is given. This is part of the plans of the Nature Program committee.

1. CAPE HATTERAS STATE PARK, in Dare County near Buxton. U.S. Highway No. 64 from Raleigh to Zebulon, then U.S. No. 264 to Wilson, Greenville, Washington, Belhaven, Scranton, Swan Quarter, Englehard. Take ferry to Hatteras. To Hatteras Park on sandy trail. Good fishing in sound, inlet, surf, and ocean. Inquire at nearby villages.
2. FORT MACON STATE PARK, in Carteret County across Bogue Sound from Beaufort and Morehead City. Take U.S. Highway No. 70 from Raleigh to Selma, Goldsboro, Kinston, New Bern, Morehead City. The historic old fort with its unique architecture has been restored and is open to the public. Nearby is Atlantic Beach.



3. PETTIGREW STATE PARK, in Washington and Tyrrell Counties on Lake Phelps. Take U.S. 64 to Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Tarboro, Williamston, Jamesville, Roper, Creswell. Make inquiries here.

4. CLIFFS OF THE NEUSE STATE PARK, in Wayne County, U.S. No. 70 from Raleigh to Selma and Goldsboro. At Goldsboro take State Highway No. 111. This intersects No. 55 about five miles from Seven Springs which is in the park area.

5. JONES LAKE RECREATIONAL AREA, Bladen County, 4 miles northeast from Elizabethtown. To reach either No. 5 or No. 6, take State Highway No. 87 from Fayetteville to Elizabethtown. Exclusive for Negroes. Has modern bathhouse, bathing beach, boat house, and picnic and athletic facilities.

6. SINGLETARY LAKE GROUP CAMP—Bladen County, 12 miles northeast from Elizabethtown. Used for organized groups, it has picnicking, boating, and fishing facilities.

7. CRABTREE CREEK STATE PARK, in Wake County, midway between Durham and Raleigh. Coming from the East or West connect with U.S. Highway No. 64 to Raleigh. Has four group camps, three for white and one for Negro. Available also are picnic areas, bathhouse, lake swimming and vacation cabins.

8. MORROW MOUNTAIN STATE PARK, in Stanly County, seven miles northeast of Albemarle. From Raleigh take U.S. Highway No. 64 to Pittsboro and Asheboro, then State Highway No. 49 to New London and U.S. No. 52 to Albemarle. Facilities for swimming, picnicking, hiking, and nature study. Limited camping permitted.

9. HANGING ROCK STATE PARK, in Stokes County, 30 miles north of Winston-Salem. Take U.S. No. 52 from Winston-Salem to Rural Hall, then State Highway No. 66 to Gap and Moore Springs. Inquire as to directions to the park area. Facilities for swimming, fishing, picnicking. Limited camping permitted.

10. TOWN CREEK INDIAN MOUND, Montgomery County.

11. RENDEZVOUS MOUNTAIN STATE PARK, Wilkes County, 15 miles northeast of North Wilkesboro. Take U.S. No. 421 to Winston-Salem, North Wilkesboro, Miller's Creek. Take State highway No. 16 to the park.

12. MT. MITCHELL STATE PARK—in Yancey County, 25 miles northeast from Asheville. U.S. Highway No. 158 from Winston-Salem to Mocksville. No. 64 to Statesville, Hickory, Morganton, Marion. About ten miles from Marion take State Highway No. 80 to Garden City and Busick. Hiking, Nature Study, picnicking, and limited camping.

CLARA HEARNE, *Chairman N. C. Bird Club Nature Program.*
(Roanoke Rapids, N. C., Feb. 19, 1947.)

Unique Bird Book Exhibit at Chapel Hill

The University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill is displaying a most unusual exhibition, owing to its two-fold significance. "The Evolution of a Bird Book" is an appropriate title for the collection of material shown in three large display cases in the main corridor. Of first significance is the fact that the inside story of the publishing of a book is shown from the inception of the idea to the full accomplishment. It is rare that the reading public has the opportunity to see the tedious preliminaries involved in the production of a book. Of second significance is the beauty and interest of the subject matter of the book whose life history is chronologically recorded.

"Winter Birds of the Sandhills," by Milton P. Skinner and Dr. John Warren Achorn, is the focus of the display. The beginning of the book was conceived in the early 1920's by Dr. Achorn, a retired doctor living at Pine Bluff, North Carolina. He found many bird-lovers visiting the Sandhills region in the winter season who also felt a definite need for a bird book adapted to the region and adapted to

the portrayal of the Carolina birds in their winter plumage. Dr. Achorn stirred the interest of many friends until it was possible to arrange for a scientific survey by the Roosevelt Wildlife Forest Experiment Station, whose director was Charles C. Adams. From then until the book was completed, Mr. Adams' guiding hand from the background can be seen. By 1926 the survey was begun and Skinner, a noted ornithologist, was sent by the Roosevelt Station to undertake the field work. Edward T. Sawyer, artist and naturalist of the Yellowstone Park was employed to make the drawings for the plates. The troublesome problems, both personal and technical, from that time until the book saw the light of day from the Science Press in 1929, are all indicated in the correspondence between Achorn, the promoter; Adams, the director; Skinner the ornithologist, and Sawyer, the artist. Skinner's field notes are shown, together with Sawyer's photographs and preliminary sketches. Perhaps the main feature is the display of Sawyer's twelve large original water-colors and the proof sheets of the exquisite color plates produced by the engraver. In the center of all is the finished book with notes on its reception in the market and by readers. Even the cancelled check closing the financial account was preserved.

The collection has come to the Library as a gift of Charles C. Adams, curator of the New York State Museum in Albany, who felt that the full history of this North Carolina book properly belonged to the University Library. Part of the collection will be used by the Department of Zoology, and the rest of the material will well be preserved in the Southern Historical Collection of the Library. Bird enthusiasts throughout the State will be interested in the records, as well as in the display of plates and original drawings in color.

(Chapel Hill, N. C., March 25, 1947)

G. F. SHEPHERD, JR.

Field Notes and News

GREENSBORO, N. C.: On February 13, near my home in western Greensboro I saw a Woodcock. I had a good view of the bird in flight.

GEORGE A. SMITH.

PURPLE MARTINS LATE AT ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.: Mayor Flora, of Elizabeth City, writes that his Purple Martins arrived on April 4th, the same date as last year. In previous years they have arrived as early as March 1. Flora noted Canada Geese passing overhead, going north, on March 10.

PHILLIPS RUSSELL, Chapel Hill.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.: Purple Martins arrived March 17th, two days late, and are nesting in new "Martin Apartments," erected by Wm. H. Chance, Sr., in his garden near town. Phoebe were found nesting on a mantel in an old vacant log house, entering through the one broken window, flying through two rooms and into a third to nest, indeed ingenuity plus.

HENRY MAGIE.

RALEIGH, N. C.: The Upland Plover is now listed as a rare migrant in North Carolina, though it is probably somewhat more abundant than the few records indicate. One lone bird was seen at Raleigh on October 12, 1946, at the edge of Highway 1 in front of Meredith College. It was feeding in a moist field of two acres extent, in association with eleven Killdeer and nine Wilson's Snipe. Red-breasted Nuthatch, 3 on 15 of November, 1946; immature American Bittern, one

on 8 January, 1947; Pine Siskin, 14 on 21 January, 1947, feeding on cones of short leaf and loblolly pines.

T. L. QUAY, N. C. State College.

RALEIGH, N. C. The following were still on Lake Johnson on March 16: Canvasback, 6; Golden-eye, 4; Old Squaw, 2; Gadwall, 6. March 23, on Lake Johnson: Ring-necked Duck, 100; Baldpate, 8; Pied-billed Grebe, 2, and Osprey, 1 (flying over with prey in its talons.) In a nearby forest I saw a Hermit Thrush. Purple Finches were seen at Raleigh on February 4, and March 16; and 18 were seen at Castle Hayne on March 24.

DAVID L. WRAY.

CORRECTION: In the article, "Status of Waterfowl in Inland North Carolina," by Howard T. Odum, in the March issue of *The Chat* (Vol. XI, No. 2), in the last column of Table II (Waterfowl data for Inland North Carolina), page 46, the last eleven lines should be moved down so as to read:

Snow Goose—Ansonville, 31 Dec.-10 Feb; *Pintail*—Charlotte, 11 April; *Wood Duck*—Lumberton, 8 eggs, 22 May; *Rocky Mt.*, 2 broods young, 1 May; *Redhead*—Durham, 31 July; *Bufflehead*—Highlands, 1 Nov.; *Hooded Merganser*—Rocky Mt., Females & Young, 9 May.

RALEIGH, N. C.: Here are some records for Lake Johnson and Lake Raleigh, near Raleigh. February 2, pair of Old Squaw, and pair of Shovellers; February 14, and 16, 3 Old Squaw. On February 14, a typical day, listed the following: Mallard, 50; Black Duck, 15; Gadwall, 9; Baldpate, 14; Ring-neck, 85; Canvasback, 5; Scaup, 50; Bufflehead, 3; Old Squaw, 3; Ruddy, 2; Hooded Merganser, 4. February 16, 4 Green-winged Teal, 9 American Merganser. On campus at N. C. State College: February 12 and 17, Yellow Palm Warbler, 1; February 25, Cedar Waxwing, 200; Purple Finch, 50.

WILL HON, N. C. State College.

MT. OLIVE (Wayne County), N. C.: Fall dates of interest in this area are: American Bittern, Sept. 9; Broad-winged Hawk, Oct. 12 (late date); Pigeon Hawk, Sept. 5; Sparrow Hawk, Sept. 4; Florida Gallinule, Oct. 31; about a third of the Night Hawks noticed by Bob Wolff and myself in the Mt. Olive area appeared to belong to the Florida subspecies, an observation worth mentioning. The following are a few late fall dates: Swift, Oct. 11; Summer Tanager, Oct. 8; Blue-headed Vireo, Nov. 10; Western Palm Warbler, Oct. 13. A pair of Black and White Warblers was seen here on July 10, which might indicate that they breed this far east. (Also worthy of mention, but rather late is the finding of an immature loon on the Bogue Banks Carteret County, N. C., on June 16. The bird was unable to fly either due to immaturity or sickness.)

BOB HOLMES, III.

LOCKHART GADDY'S WILDLIFE REFUGE, ANSONVILLE, N. C.: February 6—The Canada Geese fed out too long by the full moon last night, and the pond froze over. It was fun to watch them come in today, slipping and sliding on the ice until they could break through. The Ring-necks and Redhead were gone, but there were three new Mallards, several Black Ducks, 1 Green-winged Teal, 1 Hutchins's Goose (Lesser Canada?—A.D.S.), and lots of Canada Geese.

February 21—The Wildlife Service has made two trappings recently for banding purposes. There were 163 geese in the two catches. The number of geese varies every day. An estimated 3,000 Canada Geese and 1,200 people were at the refuge

last Sunday, February 16th. We still have 16 (drakes and hens) Ring-necked Ducks, several Mallards and Black Ducks, 1 pair Redheads, 1 Green-winged Teal, and 2 Pintails.

MR. AND MRS. LOCKHART GADDY.

RALEIGH, N. C.: On February 16, two Old Squaw were seen on Lake Johnson. There are only eight locality records for North Carolina for this occasional inland visitor, though there are about 20 date records. Inland they have been seen at Greensboro in December, Buncombe county in February, Raleigh in December, January and March, and now a February record for Raleigh, from observations on the 15th and 16th, first by Ernest Mitchell, and then by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Overing, Norman McCulloch, and myself. Also saw: 2 Golden-eye, 2 Ruddy Duck, about 75 Ring-neck Duck, 1 Black Duck, 1 Gadwall, 6 Baldpate, 1 Pied-billed Grebe, 1 Lesser Scaup, 1 Canvasback, 2 Mallard, 1 Hooded Merganser, 1 Great Blue Heron.

DAVID L. WRAY.

(Mrs. Floyd Hugh Craft located a single Old Squaw drake on a pond near Greensboro during the second week in January, 1947, and for several days many of the members of the Piedmont Bird club visited the lake to see this bird.—A.D.S.)

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER TAKEN AT ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.: On Feb. 10th, I caught and banded a dark green bird, which for lack of better knowledge, I termed a freak female Pine Warbler. Colored a dull blackish greenish yellow, it had no marking—no wing bars, no eye ring, no eye line, no white on tip of tail, nothing except that it did have on the top of its head a small patch of yellow, which could only be seen indistinctly by ruffling its feathers. This bird haunted me and my feeding stations for a month, and at the suggestion of State Museum Director Harry Davis, I collected it on March 6th, and took it to a meeting of the Raleigh Bird Club the same night and turned it over to a representative of the museum. Several bird students at the Raleigh Bird Club meeting "identified" the bird as a Ruby-crowned Kinglet. A letter from Harry Davis, on March 29, advised me that a number of students had examined the skin which had been prepared at the museum and they had concluded that it was a female Orange-crowned Warbler.

J. W. E. JOYNER.

(There are few North Carolina records of this rather obscurely marked Warbler, which is a spring and fall migrant in this section, and possibly a winter resident, in small numbers, in at least some sections of North Carolina in occasional winters. It was reported on the 1945 Christmas count at Chapel Hill.—A. D. S.)

MINER BANDED GOOSE SHOT IN POLK COUNTY, N. C.: From A. M. Law, Spartanburg, S. C., we have received a copy of the January 14th issue of the *Tryon* (N.C.) *Daily Bulletin*, which contains a story of a banded Canada Goose which Burley Durham of Tryon shot on Lake Adger, Polk County, N. C., on December 27, 1946. The aluminum leg band, over an inch wide, had the following words: Write Jack Miner, Kingsville, Ontario, Canada, "I walk among you," Leviticus 26th chapter, 12 verse; 40018, F. 46. This indicated that over 40,000 birds had been banded by Miner, and this bird, number 40018, was banded in the fall of 1946. Mr. Durham wrote to the Miner Bird Sanctuary, as requested, and received some interesting information regarding Miner's work. He tagged his first bird, a duck, at his bird sanctuary at Kingsville, in August, 1909, and it was reported shot by Dr. W. E. Bray of Anderson, S. C., in January 1910. Miner was not a religious fanatic but a sincere believer in the work of God. The Bible verse has been invaluable among the Eskimos and Indians who shoot an occasional goose,

as they take the bands to their missionaries to get the interpretations of the Bible verse. The missionary in turn takes the verse for his text on Sunday and all natives turn out to see, as they say, "What God said that time."

UPLAND PLOVER SEEN AT RALEIGH, N. C.: On March 20, while birding on the grounds of the State Hospital at Raleigh, I saw an enormous flock of Cowbirds (800 to 1,000, I estimated), feeding on the ground near the cow barns and flying up into a grove of scrub oaks, and being constantly harried by two hawks. In a peach orchard and in a level field beyond were small birds which I later found were Bluebirds, Myrtle Warblers, and a flock of 60-75 Savannah and Song Sparrows. Here, a week previously, I had seen a flock of 100 American Pipits, but none were here this afternoon.

I saw a little flock of 6 plover-like birds feeding in the grass along with Killdeers, Robins, and Meadowlark. They were a dull, dark brownish-gray on top and a lighter gray underneath with a grayish area over the eye. Their bills were slender and about as long as their heads. They were slightly larger than the Killdeers. I realized they were Upland Plovers, and watched them for a half hour through 8-power Zeiss binoculars. At first they were only about 25 or 30 yards distant, but gradually they moved farther away. I saw them in flight but they made no outcry and I did not hear their call. Later, returning by the same route. I saw again the flock of six.

From "Birds of North Carolina," I found this was the first record for Wake county in 25 years, and was the earliest record for the state, the earliest previous record being March 18, 1896. On Sept. 11, 1946, in company of Mrs. A. C. Read, of Norfolk, Va., I had seen 3 of these birds in a grassy pasture of the Carolanne Farms, in Princess Anne County, Va.

VIRGINIA R. B. PICKELL.

COASTAL BREEDING CENSUSES: In the November 1946 issue of the *Chat*, Howard T. Odum lists four censuses of breeding birds. The two taken at Chapel Hill (floodplain forest and oak-hickory forest) are excellent contributions which meet the exacting standards of the Audubon Magazine annual breeding-census project. The two censuses at Beaufort (young coastal oak-hickory forest and climax salt marsh) fall short of the requirements, only a few hours on two days being spent in the survey and coverage of each. Thus the Beaufort census results are not comparable with those secured from the more extensive work at Chapel Hill. It is questionable whether two days of observation are enough on which to base density figures for a whole season. The Beaufort studies might better have been published just as field-trip lists.

The term "climax" salt marsh warrants examination. The coastal salt marshes are considered developmental, not climatic climax, communities. (See W. L. McAtee, 1939, "Wildlife of the Atlantic Coast Marshes," *U.S.D.A. Circular No. 520*; William Penfound and E. S. Hathaway, 1938, "Plant Communities in the Marshland of Southeastern Louisiana," *Ecological Monographs* 8.) Nor is it sufficient to speak of "Spartina alone dominating 60% of area," because the two species of *Spartina* exhibit important ecological differences. *Spartina alterniflora* tolerates higher salt content than *Spartina patens*. At Beaufort, *Spartina patens* occurs above the high-tide mark, *Spartina alterniflora* below. The particular section of marsh that Odum studied at the oyster farm was not as "typical" as some other nearby areas, the vegetation being shorter, sparser and less varied. The salt marshes are important and complex communities, and adequate breeding bird censuses on them will yield valuable results.

(Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 28, 1947)

T. L. QUAY.

With the Editor

BIRDS OF THE APPALACHIANS: "Breeding Birds of the Unicoi Mountains," is the title of an article, by Albert F. Ganier and Alfred Clebsch, in *The Migrant*, December 1946. The Unicoi Mountains, a part of the lower Appalachians, stretch along about thirty miles of the Tennessee-North Carolina boundary, between the Little Tennessee and Hiwasee rivers. The article includes an annotated list of the birds of this region. We have secured some reprints and would be glad to mail one to any interested member of the N. C. B. C. Drop a card with your request to the Editor of *The Chat*, W. C. U. N. C., Greensboro, N. C.

BIRD AND WILDLIFE SLIDES AND MOVING PICTURES: The N. C. Division of Game and Inland Fisheries, at Raleigh, is building a library of film and slides of birds and wildlife in general. They have on hand the best bird slides that A. A. Allen has made, besides several color and sound movies of birds and animals. These are available for educational and publicity purposes on wildlife programs or other programs of groups interested in conservation and resources. Write to L. G. McLean, Educational Supervisor, Division of Game and Inland Fisheries, Raleigh, N. C.

THE UNKNOWN BIRDS—described in *Questions and Answers* in the last issue of *The Chat* were apparently Myrtle Warblers. We received several letters and calls from N. C. B. C. members practically all of whom named the birds correctly. One writer called attention to an oversight on the part of the editor. I had failed to include the questioner's mention of the approximate size of the birds. We are planning to include in an early issue of *The Chat* a page of unlabeled bird photographs to test your bird knowledge.

BEFRIENDING BIRDS PAYS: A. G. Gordon, who has a four acre man made lake at Gordon Lodge, 5 miles west of Winston-Salem, has found that befriending birds pays off big. He started the feeding of Canada Geese in the Winston-Salem region, and has also checked a good sized list of birds at his window feeder. During the past winter he has had shelled three bushels of black walnuts to feed to the birds.

VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY announced its fourteenth annual meeting to be held in Charlottesville, Va., on May 16th. Besides a number of interesting reports, nine moving pictures of birds and wildlife were scheduled to be shown. The featured guest speaker was Dr. John W. Aldrich of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

YOUNGEST N. C. B. C. MEMBER: Jack Frost, son of Charles M. Frost, 623 Oakland Ave., Winston-Salem, N. C., was fifteen months old when he became a member of the North Carolina Bird Club, on December 30th, 1946. Papa Charles says that he wants his son to know birds, and he believes in starting early.

CONCRETE BIRD BATHS, feeders, benches, and flower boxes are for sale by Roland Covington, who makes them at Raeford, N. C. If you are interested drop him a card for information.

MORE MARTIN GOURDS: The Blackville Mercantile Co., at Blackville, S. C., offers large martin gourds, six inches or more in diameter, at twenty cents each, F. O. B. Blackville.

Next Year

With the valuable aid of Dr. Richard Weaver, formerly head of the Audubon Nature Center at Greenwich, Conn., and recently appointed program director for the North Carolina Resource-Use Education Commission, we hope to have additional material for teachers. Material is at hand for mimeographing to help those who wish to form new bird clubs and new sanctuaries.

The N. C. B. C. is to be incorporated. At the annual meeting at Atlantic Beach, the club approved the proposal for incorporating, and a committee was appointed with power to act. The committee consists of: R. D. Douglass, Greensboro, chairman; Archie D. Shaftesbury, Greensboro; and B. R. Chamberlain, Charlotte. This is a forward step and will enable the club to receive bequests and to own bonds where there is a fund, as receipts from life memberships and gifts, which will be untouched for a time.

The N. C. B. C. has decided to form a federation with the local clubs in order to establish closer relations with the local groups and promote more efficient statewide work. Details of the plan will be submitted to each local group this fall, and the plan is expected to be put in operation beginning with 1948. A fee of 10c a member from the local club will be sent to the state organization. A copy of *The Chat* will be sent to the local club library. Each local club will be expected to send a voting representative to one N. C. B. C. Executive Committee meeting each year, for the coordination of plans and policies.

The Chat is to have an editorial board, to be appointed each year by the editor, and to consist of an associate editor and three contributing editors. As heretofore, the executive committee will continue to serve as an advisory board.

Chapel Hill and Wilmington will have Audubon Screen Tours during the coming year. Dates for their programs will be announced in the September issue of *The Chat*.

LOCAL CLUBS AND THEIR OFFICERS

Arden, Rosscraggon Wood, Inc.: P—Miss Margaret Atkins, Skyland; V-P—Miss Jenny Fleetwood Westfeldt, Arden; S-T—Major V. M. Shell, Arden; Board of Governors—H. B. Swope, Skyland; W. H. Lashley, Asheville; Miss Susan Shepard, Skyland.

Asheville Bird Club: P—R. H. Rembert; V-P—Miss Margaret Decker; S—Mrs. M. F. Meredith, 10 Castle St.; T—Mrs. Francis E. Field.

Blowing Rock, Blowing Rock Audubon Club: P—Miss Lena Reeves; V-P—Mrs. Joe Winkler.

Boone Bird Club: P—Dr. Robert King; V-P—Mrs. W. M. Burwell; S-T—Miss Cora Jeffcoat.

Chapel Hill Bird Club: P—Mrs. Harold Walters; V-P and Census Supervisor—Howard T. Odum; S-T—Mrs. David Olson; Publicity Chairman—Mrs. Horace Crockford.

Charlotte, Mecklenburg Audubon Club: P—B. Rhett Chamberlain, 1320 Biltmore Drive; V-P—Miss Anne Locke and Mrs. George Potter; S—Miss Connie Thigpen, 1215 Greenwood Cliff; T—Mrs. W. B. Simons.

Durham, Duke-Durham Bird Club: P—Miss Bertha B. Hopkins, 506 Buchanan Road; S-T—Mrs. M. W. Johnson.

Greensboro, Piedmont Bird Club: P—Miss Etta Schiffman; V-P—Mrs. W. C. Carr and Kenneth Wible; Rec. S—Mrs. R. D. Douglas; T—Miss Sarah Lesley; Cor. S—Mrs. J. S. Teague; Ex. Comm.—Officers and Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury and Dr. Charlotte Dawley.

Guilford College, T. Gilbert Pearson Bird Club: P—Elizabeth Hare; V-P—J. G. Gilbert; S-T—Margery Pickett.

Henderson Bird Club: P—Mrs. A. W. Bachman; V-P—Mrs. T. C. Gill; S-T—Miss Agnes Pegram.

Hickory Bird Club: P—J. Weston Clinard; V-P—Mrs. George E. Bisanar; S-T—Mrs. George Fuller.

Lenoir Audubon Club: P—Miss Margaret Harper; V-P—R. T. Greer; S—Miss May Puett, 512 West Harper St.

Lumberton Bird Club: P—James Stephens, Jr.; V-P—Mrs. Henry McKinnon; S—Mrs. D. L. Whiting; T—Miss Lillian Whiting.

Mount Airy Bird Club: P—Mrs. J. Bruce Yokley; V-P—O. W. Kochitsky; S—Mrs. H. G. Long; T—Fred Johnson.

Raleigh Bird Club: P—Mrs. A. J. Skaale; V-P—Dr. David L. Wray; S—Frank B. Meacham, N. C. State Museum; Ex-Comm.—Officers, and Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green and Harry T. Davis.

Roanoke Rapids Bird Club: P—Mrs. A. O. Pendleton, R 1, Bolling Rd.; V-P—Miss Clara Hearne; S-T—Mrs. T. L. O'Briant, 538 Vance St.

Rocky Mount, Francis H. Craighill Bird Club: P—J. W. E. Joyner; V-P—Charles Benbow; S—Miss Martha Clark; T—Miss Lilly Shearin.

Southern Pines Bird Club: P—Mary Keller Wintyen; V-P & S—Miss Louise Haynes; T. & Rec. Sec.—Miss Norma Shiring.

Statesville Audubon Club: P—Miss Nancy B. Eliason; V-P—Miss Grace Anderson; S—Mrs. Calhoun Ramsey; T—Mrs. Earl Davis.

Tryon Bird Club: P—G. H. Holmes; S-T—Katherine D. Hamilton.

Wilmington Bird Club: P—Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, 5 Lake Forest Parkway; Honorary President—Theodore G. Empie; V-P—Miss Helen Lovering; S—Miss Marjorie Voss, 149 Woodlawn Ave.; T—Warwick R. Baker; Sec. Jr. Work—Mrs. Warwick R. Baker.

Winston-Salem Bird Club: P—Henry Magie; S-T—Wm. S. Rothrock, 2434 Stockton St.; Directors—Charles H. Babcock, Thurmond Chatham, Jr., Richard J. Reynolds, II.

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB



Young Brown Pelicans on Nest Near Ocracoke, August, 1947

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The Chat

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DR. ARCHIE D. SHAFESBURY, *Editor*

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(From painting by Bruce Horsfall in "Birds of N. C.")

The Big Trumpet Vine

JAMES HUTCHINS, Windom, N. C.

Big things in nature invariably arrest our attention; they arouse our curiosity; we stand in awe of their size and grandeur. The highest mountain lifting its summit majestically into the heavens is the object of our amazement. The massive oak and the towering tulip tree never cease to excite our wonder. High on the steep side of Mount Celo is a huge red spruce pushing its crown far above the tops of all surrounding trees, victor over thousands of fierce windstorms. At every opportunity I turn my eyes upward to view its stark beauty and I am delighted to name it the "Old Sentinel," watching over his own.

The American Forestry Association is seeking out the largest specimen of each variety of our native trees. There is a good-natured rivalry among members to find and measure the biggest ones. This absorbing interest, it seems to me, might embrace other flowering plants. The subject of this sketch is the Big Trumpet Vine, which is growing at the Hensley place on a mountain side near Windom. It is a vine seventy-five or eighty years of age, still luxuriant in growth, planted by one of the old settlers of this neighborhood. And how big is it? The circumference at the largest place is 16 inches. The diameter, therefore, is about five inches. Taking the plant as a whole, there is enough of vine, it is evident, one inch and more in diameter to reach 1,000 feet; the lesser branches, if placed end to end, would stretch another 1,000 feet. In all probability the whole plant—roots, branches and foliage—would weigh one and one-half tons. I nominate it as the Number One trumpet vine in North Carolina.

With two youthful companions, Roosevelt Hughes and Paul Hughes, aged 12 and 9 years, respectively, I counted the flowers on a ten-foot square, when about one-third of them had fallen, and found that there were 580. As the whole area on which flowers had fallen was twelve times as great, a fair estimate of the total number of flowers was 19,680. Counting four flowers per cluster, there were 4,920 clusters, a very great number for a single plant.

A part of this trumpet vine assumes an umbrella shape on top of a snag or stump about ten feet high. The main part, however, ascends in six large branches a five-prong locust to a height of sixty-five feet, the tree being almost concealed by the vine and the foliage. The leaves of the vine and the tree make a pleasing and striking contrast with the unusually lush and beautiful flowers.

One is greatly impressed with the rustic scene of this old homestead. Only the four log walls of the dwelling house remain, the ridgepoles having fallen in. The chimney, mud-daubed, is prostrate and the hand-hewn puncheon floor has gone back to mother earth. Blackberry briars fifteen feet high have grown up inside this one-room log residence. Broken pieces of pottery are scattered about. Numerous plum

trees, apple trees and peach trees, still bearing and overshadowed by towering tulip trees, are on the place.

In this high mountain side nook dwelt a notable pioneer family—a father and mother and their nine children. A single room, about 14 by 16 feet, was kitchen, dining room, living room, bedroom, bath, etc. The family eked out a living in this rugged place by raising corn, a little wheat, and vegetables, and by wages paid for work for other people. Dried apples, roots, and herbs brought in a little money. As was common with the masses of people at that time, there was very little money for cultural or recreational activities. The most common books were the Bible (King James version), Pilgrim's Progress, Fox's Book of Martyrs, a Bible dictionary and an almanac. These were studied very intensively. To illustrate, a certain local preacher read the Bible through fifty-two times and ran all the references each time.

The esthetic side of life was evidenced by the planting of such flowers as the trumpet vine, lillies of the valley, hollyhocks, roses, nasturtiums, zinnias, and snowballs.

In homes like this, sound Americanism, love of freedom, loyalty to country, and a keen sense of the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship grew up. Many customs, and modes of speech of the Elizabethan era persist; and many ballads of that far-off time are sung.

The Big Trumpet Vine is particularly interesting because it is the summer rendezvous of a swarm, as it were, of hummingbirds. During the past summer, my youthful companions and I made many visits to the place. We frequently gazed in wonder an hour or two at a time at both flowers and birds. Imagine a veritable flock of hummers as they zigzag in all directions, standing at times motionless by means of the rapid vibration of their wings at a dizzy height, and you sense the beauty and grandeur of the scene.

Often we counted the number of birds coming in and going out during definite spaces of time. With as accurate determination as we could make, an average of three birds would arrive and leave this vine every two minutes of a 15-hour day. In other words, there were 1,350 visits a day. If each bird made ten visits a day, the vine was regularly visited by 135 birds. Assuming that this is the number of hummingbirds in the surrounding square mile and that they are uniformly distributed over Yancey County, there are 40,000 in the County. On the same basis North Carolina would have 7,047,000.

News of the Local Clubs

HICKORY BIRD CLUB: The March meeting was cancelled on account of the illness of a number of members and the unfavorable weather.

At the April meeting, held on the evening of the 10th, at the J. W. Warlick home in Forest Park, several chapters of the life of T. Gilbert Pearson were discussed by Mrs. Katharine Vallotton. Mrs. George Bisanar read "The Song of the Cardinal," which was written by the late Senator Josiah Bailey. In a quiz contest on bird names, conducted by J. W. Clinard, Dr. H. D. Althouse and Mrs. Vallotton won first and second place respectively, and were awarded suet feeders for birds.

The May meeting was held on the evening of the 8th, at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Harry D. Althouse. Dr. Althouse conducted the group through his garden and pointed out nesting boxes occupied by Bluebirds and Crested Flycatchers. President J. Weston Clinard gave an account of the annual spring meeting of the North Carolina Bird Club, which he attended at Morehead City on May 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. Mr. Clinard also told of several birds which he saw along the coast which are not com-

mon in the Hickory region. Among these were the Painted Bunting, Boat-tailed Grackle, Fish Crow, and Seaside Sparrow.

Announcement was made of the annual field trip of the Hickory Bird Club, to be held on the evening of June 12th, starting from the Worth Elliott-Carnegie Library, and proceeding to the old Rowe homestead, near Conover, now owned by Grover Herman.

FRANCIS H. CRAIGHILL BIRD CLUB: Regular monthly meetings are being held, now on the third Tuesday of each month. New officers for the coming year were elected at the March meeting. For the April meeting, a 6:00 a.m. field trip was planned for the 12th, this outing to be followed by a "Dutch" breakfast.

With the Rocky Mount City Recreation Department and the Rocky Mount Garden Club, the Francis H. Craighill Bird Club sponsored a city wide bird house building contest which was most successful. There were 80 entries, and bird books were given as prizes.

DOROTHY CRAIGHILL, *Secretary*

PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB: "A Trip to the Everglades," was the theme for the April meeting, which was held at Greensboro on the evening of the 17th, which included reports of five members, Miss Inez Coldwell, Miss Etta Schiffman, Mrs. Edith Settan, Floyd Hugh Craft, and William Craft, who have recently taken Florida tours sponsored by the National Audubon Society. Plans were announced for the spring bird count, to be held on Saturday, April 26th, and the new yearbooks, with an attractively colored cover design of a Wood Duck, were distributed.

NOTE FROM A NEIGHBOR STATE: "I would like to become a subscriber to *The Chat* and enclose check for 1947. . . From a copy of your magazine I note that your organization has several clubs in easy driving distance from Elizabethton (Tenn.). Elk Park, the closest, is a mere 28 miles or so away, just across that state line, and Asheville and Boone are some 70 or 80 miles away. With others of the Elizabethton chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society, I have been on bird study trips into North Carolina—to Grandfather Mountain and Beech Mountain vicinity, and of course, to Roan Mountain and Hump Mountain over the crest of which the state line leads. Hence the interest in the activities of your club.

FRED W. BEHREND, 606 West D St., Elizabethton, Tenn.

Lexington Officially Declared Bird Sanctuary

The major project of the Home and Garden Club of Lexington, N. C. for 1946-1947 was to make the City of Lexington a bird sanctuary. This announcement brought the approval of other garden clubs, including the Garden Club Council of Lexington, all the civic clubs, and other interested citizens. The combined activities of these groups made possible the passing of the ordinance by the city commissioners declaring the city a bird sanctuary, and publicity has been given to regulations covering the better control and protection of bird life in the community.

In the campaign to create interest and bird consciousness in the public mind, bird poster contests were held in the city schools. Several hundred posters were prepared by the students, and first and second prizes were given by the four garden clubs and the garden council for the best posters in each school. A number received honorable mention. Some of the posters were placed in a store window on main street and were so admired by the public that they were displayed at the spring flower show, along with many bird houses made by the school children. A special program on birds was given in the schools.

The Home and Garden Club sent subscriptions to *The Chat* to the libraries of each of the five elementary schools, to the public library, and three additional subscriptions to members of the club. A program on birds was given at the March meeting of the club.

MRS. O. L. EVANS, Bird Chairman, Lexington Home and Garden Club.

Brown Pelicans Nesting in Pamlico Sound

BOB WOLFF, Goldsboro, N. C.

Several times during the past summer Aycock Brown, in his column, "Covering the Waterfront," in the Greensboro Daily News, mentioned that Brown Pelicans were nesting near Ocracoke, N. C. On August 5th, Joe West and Thomas Rogers, Jr., of Warsaw, N. C., and Curtis Cates, of Faison, N. C., and I arrived in that region for a two days stay. We chartered a boat with Capt. Stacy Howard and, early on the morning of August 6th, we went to Shell Island, which is also known as Castle Island and Castle Rock, and is located $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles WSW of Ocracoke and 1 mile WNW of Portsmouth Island. Shell Island is about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile long by $1/16$ th mile wide, and tapers at the ends. It is covered with low myrtle shrubs, dense shore grass, and some large weeds.

We located 14 active nests and several inactive ones. These pelican nests were heavy, rough affairs composed of drift branches, and were about 26 inches across. We counted 33 immature and 55 mature pelicans. It is possible that there were other mature birds in the vicinity, since we saw several feeding in the sound the previous afternoon as we made the trip from Atlantic on the mail boat. The immature birds ranged from the size of a pigeon to three-fourths grown. The larger young were covered with a white down. They set up a terrific din, squawking and snapping their long bills. It was a marvelous sight to see the mature birds wheeling over our heads as we examined the nests and young.

Peterson describes them as huge, 45 to 54 inches in length, with a wing spread of six and a half feet; "ponderous dark water birds with white about the head and neck (in adults)." "Birds of North Carolina" mentions that they have been sighted in many places along the coast, adding that, in 1929, a federal conservation agent discovered that 14 pairs were nesting on Royal Shoals. Now, apparently only bare bars remain at Royal Shoals.

Besides the Pelicans, there were perhaps 3,500 Laughing Gulls (about half of them immature), 200 Royal Terns, and 30 Least Terns, on the Island. The nests of the gulls were numerous in the thick grass and shrubbery. There were young that had just hatched and some beginning to fly. Most of the tern eggs had already hatched but there were a few which had not yet hatched. Black Skimmers had already hatched and all were flying. On the flats between Ocracoke and the ocean there were hundreds of shore birds that permitted us to walk within 20 feet of them.

This trip was certainly worth while although it is difficult to reach Ocracoke and nearly as difficult to get around or to find a place to stay. There are a few cars and the only roads are sand ruts. Carleton Kelly, who lives there, had been recommended by Aycock Brown as a contact. On arrival we looked him up, and if it had not been for his kindness in locating a place for us to stay and lining up a boat for us, it would have been nearly impossible for us to have covered the ground. Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Rondthaler, of Black Mountain, were also very helpful. They were spending the summer there in their home and gave us many items of interest regarding the historical background of Ocracoke and vicinity.

Field Notes and News

WILMINGTON, N. C.: On April 1, saw 6 Hudsonian Curlews on a marsh bordering North East River, a few miles north of Wilmington; saw Chimney Swifts on April 2; on April 11, watched a pair of Chickadees excavate a nesting hole in a dead tree snag, 8 feet up from the ground; pipits were here until April 6.

DAVID L. WRAY, Raleigh.

REGARDING DEAD BIRDS ON ALBEMARLE SOUND BRIDGE: For several years, dead birds, apparently chiefly Purple Martins, have littered the bridge, particularly at the south end, during the late summer, and have presented a problem of keeping the bridge cleaned. *The Chat* would like to have notes of observations of travelers who have had occasion to use the Albemarle Sound bridge this season.

STATESVILLE, N. C.: A Connecticut Warbler, my first record for this warbler, spent a week in my yard during the latter part of May. Dr. A. Wetmore wrote me something of his experiences with Connecticuts. A Parula Warbler is nesting here about this summer. I always find a few in woodlands near town, but this is my first town record.

(July 26, 1947.)

GRACE C. ANDERSON

NOTES ON HENSLOW'S SPARROW IN IREDELL CO., N. C.: Was interested in W. L. Hamnet's encounter with the Henslow Sparrow (*The Chat*, 1946, vol. X, No. 5, p. 89-90). This sparrow, though rare in this section, can be heard and seen through June, July, and August, in many swamp meadows. Maurice Stimson and I caught a young Henslow in 1944 on the Brandon place in the outskirts of Statesville. The mother Henslow put up a brave protest. Of course we freed her offspring after a careful examination.

W. G. TEMPLETON.

NEST OF JUNCO: D. L. Wray's account of the Junco's nest at Pineola (*The Chat*, 1946, vol. X, no 5, p. 86), is interesting. I have seen many Junco's nests in the area bounded by a line running east and west through Pineola, the Tennessee line, the Virginia line, and the Blue Ridge; but only one which was not on the ground. On July 2, 1910, I found a Junco's nest near the summit of the Pinnacle of Beech Mountain, only a few miles from Pineola, as the Junco flies, which was placed on the leaning stems of a clump of beech bushes, six feet from the ground. Maybe the Juncos of that community are changing their nesting habits.

ROY M. BROWN, Chapel Hill, N. C.

“SQUEAKING” TO ATTRACT BARRED OWL: Late in the afternoon of March 9, George A. Smith, John Carr, and I had an interesting experience with a barred owl. While walking through a stand of large trees near Greensboro, we heard the distant cry of a Barred Owl. By “squeaking” on the back of his hand (a practice that many bird students have found quite successful in causing birds to appear or to approach very near), Mr. Smith enticed the owl to fly toward us and finally perch nearly over our heads in a pine tree. We had an excellent view of the owl until a dog that had followed us dashed beneath the tree and scared the bird away.

OSCAR H. PARIS, JR., Greensboro.

HIGH POINT, N. C.: On Easter Monday, April 7, I had the good fortune to observe a Bewick's Wren and a Catbird in the garden of the old Richardson home place south of High Point. I believe this is a rather late record for Bewick's Wren in

this area, and is an unusually early appearance of the Catbird for our particular area. According to interested observers in our community, the resident Catbirds have arrived on or about April 22 for a great many years. On April 2, while trimming willow trees, a stub was cut off which contained two freshly laid eggs of a Screech Owl.

On April 7, I also observed a flock of about 10 Swamp Sparrows, together with about a dozen Song Sparrows, feeding in a flooded thicket near a small pond south of Greensboro.

JAMES MATTOCKS.

SOME CALIFORNIA BIRDS: W. A. Angwin, who established and commanded the Naval Special Hospital near Asheville, until it was closed after the end of World War II, has moved with Mrs. Angwin, to California. In notifying us of his change of address, Angwin says: "This change . . . has put us in a new kind of environment, which is of course a thrill and source of excitement when we pick up one we have never seen before, or see now in a new scene. We have seen Clarke's Nutcracker, White-tailed Kite, Black Brant, Audubon's and Townsend's Warblers (common here), Oregon Junco, Pygmy Nuthatch, Black Turnstone (common), Virginia Rail, White Pelicans, and Brown Pelicans (numerous), Band-tailed Pigeon (rare), Pileolated Warbler, and others too numerous to tabulate."

A. D. S.

HOLBOELL'S GREBES AT WILMINGTON, N. C.: On Dec. 29, 1946, Dr. Tom Hall, Claude McAllister and his father, C. H. McAllister, all of Wilmington, and George Williams and I saw several small diving birds from a motorboat in Masonboro Sound. We approached to within thirty or forty feet of them several times. They had the the appearance of grebes, but in flight they showed white wing patches. I found later, in "Birds of North Carolina," that Holboell's Grebe have that mark, and an examination of museum mounts in winter plumage dispelled all doubt as to their identity.

Mrs. Sibel Turnbull told me during a later visit to Wilmington, that she has found this supposedly rare grebe to be fairly common in the Wrightsville Sound area this winter.

SANDY McCULLOUGH, Raleigh.

WILMINGTON, N. C.: The following birds were present throughout the winter, 1946-1947: American Egret; Little Blue Heron; Green Heron; Louisiana Heron; Black-crowned Night Heron; Catbird; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; Yellow-throated Vireo; Maryland Yellowthroat; Chipping Sparrow; Bald Eagle; Osprey; Coot; and Ring-billed Gull. Indigo Bunting was seen on Jan. 28 and Apr. 12, 1947. Acadian Flycatcher was last seen on Sept 28, 1946, and American Redstart was last seen on Oct. 5, 1946. *Arrivals, Spring 1947*: Chuck-Wills-Widow, Apr. 9; Chimney Swift, Apr. 4; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Mch. 30; Eastern Kingbird, Dec. 28, 1946, Apr. 8; Crested Flycatcher, Apr. 9; Purple Martin, Mch. 14; White-eyed Vireo, Mch. 23; Prothonotary Warbler, Apr. 6; Parula Warbler, Apr. 7; Yellow-throated Warbler, Mch. 27; Hooded Warbler, Apr. 9; Orchard Oriole, Apr. 9; Summer Tanager, Apr. 9; Barn Swallow, Apr. 9; and Cerulean Warbler, Apr. 9 (identified by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ulrich, of Buffalo, N. Y., and Lee Herndon, President of the Tennessee Ornithological Society.)

(Apr. 14, 1947.)

MRS. CECIL APPLEBERRY, Wilmington, N. C.

GROUND DOVES: I would like to report the occurrence of a pair of ground Doves (*Columbigallina passerina*) in Brunswick County, N. C. They were seen feeding among the sand dunes behind Long Beach, on Sept. 8 and Sept 15, 1946, at almost the same spot both times. They seemed quite fearless and I was able to approach within 15 or 20 feet before they took flight. Their flights were short, usually

about 100 feet, and feeding was resumed as if nothing had happened. Once previously I had seen Ground Doves. While stationed at Ft. Screven, Georgia, which is located at the mouth of the Savannah River, I observed a nesting pair for several days in the latter part of September, 1940.

WILLIAM E. MC CONNAUGHEY, Raleigh, N. C.

CEDAR WAXWINGS ABUNDANT: At Raleigh, N. C., on the afternoon of March 10, I saw, near the Fred Olds School, the largest assembly of Cedar Waxwings which I have ever observed. Flock after flock came into a large willow tree near a large privet hedge, until at least 1,000 Waxwings were present. Cedar Waxwings seem to have been unusually numerous at Raleigh lately, and my records show the following: Jan. 22: 50, in Cameron Wood; Feb. 13: 50, Everett Ave; Mch. 9: 10, my lot; Mch. 10: 100-150, St. Mary's Campus; Mch. 22: 8, on my lot; Mch. 23: 50, in Pullen Park. Some reports from other localities: Castle Hayne, Mch. 11: flock of 25; Wilmington, Mch. 12, 13: flocks of 25 each day; I understand that someone at Wilmington saw a flock estimated at several hundred; also, several hundred have been reported at Asheville, on Feb. 16, 17, 19.

DAVID L. WRAY, Raleigh, N. C., March 14, 1947.

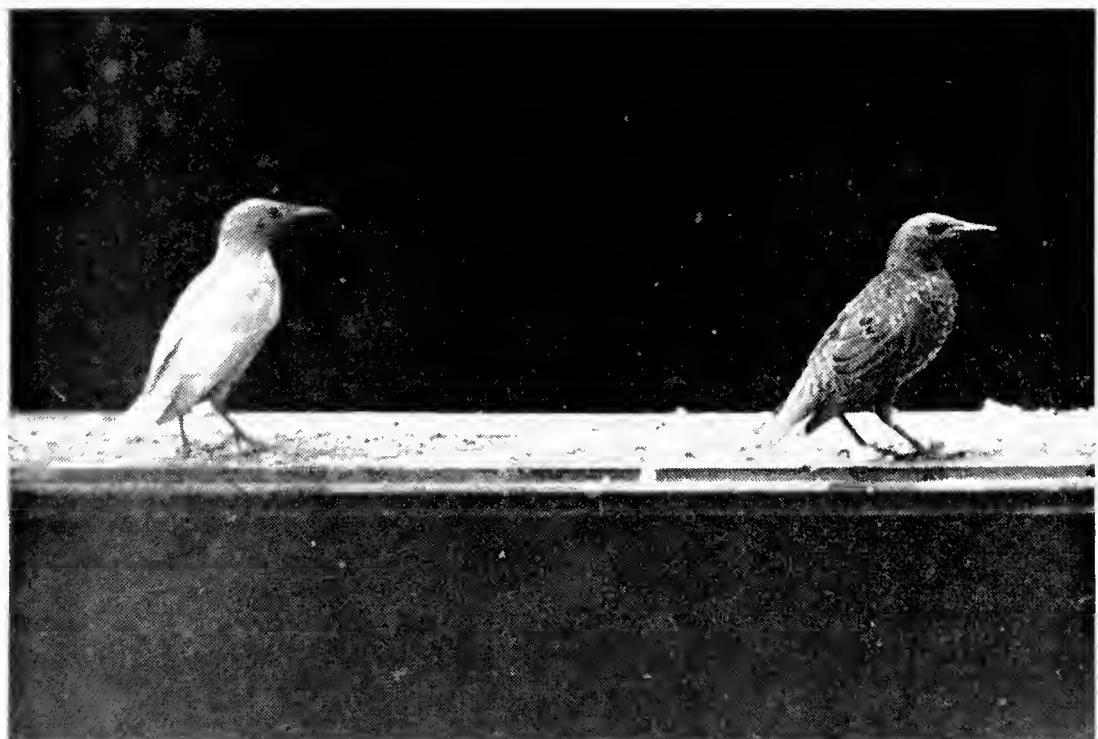
WILMINGTON, N. C.: During the three days, Feb. 8, 9, and 10, when this list was compiled, the weather was predominately overcast, with high wind making observation difficult, and ruling out the use of a motorboat to cover the sounds. Common Loon, 20; Red-throated Loon, 4; Pied-billed Grebe; Cormorant; Great Blue Heron; American Egret, 6; Snowy Egret, 8; Louisiana Heron, 12; Little Blue Heron, 4; Black-crowned Night Heron, 4; Wood Duck; Ring-necked Duck; Bufflehead; Red-breasted Merganser; Black Vulture; Cooper's Hawk; Bald Eagle; Sparrow Hawk; Coot; Oyster Catcher, fairly common; Killdeer; Black-bellied Plover; Sandpiper; Herring Gull; Ring-billed Gull; Bonaparte's Gull; Common Tern; Royal Tern; Black Skimmer, 30; Mourning Dove; Kingfisher; Flicker; Red-bellied Woodpecker; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; Hairy Woodpecker; Downy Woodpecker; Phoebe; Blue Jay; Crow; Fish Crow; Chickadee; Tufted Titmouse; Red-breasted Nuthatch; Brown-headed Nuthatch; Brown Creeper; Carolina Wren; Short-billed Marsh Wren; Mockingbird; Brown Thrasher; Robin; Hermit Thrush; Bluebird; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, several at Wrightsville Sound on 8th, and at Greenfield Lake on 10th; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Cedar Waxwing; Shrike; Starling; Myrtle Warbler; Pine Warbler; Palm Warbler; English Sparrow; Meadowlark; Red-winged Blackbird; Boat-tailed Grackle; Purple Grackle; Cardinal; Purple Finch; Towhee; Savannah Sparrow; Seaside Sparrow; Junco; Chipping Sparrow, quite common; Field Sparrow; White-throated Sparrow; Fox Sparrow, and Song Sparrow. Observers: *Claude McAllister, Jr., Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, Dr. Tom Hall, Mrs. Sibel Turnbull, Polly Mebane and Mrs. Warwick Baker*, all of Wilmington, and *Sandy McCullough*, of Raleigh (compiler).

TRYON, N. C.: Birds recorded around Tryon, April 23-30: Turkey Vulture, Broad-winged Hawk, Bob White, Spotted Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Southern Hairy Woodpecker, Southern Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Wood Pewee, Rough-winged Swallow, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Red Breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Bluebird, Blue Gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Viero, Mountain (Solitary) Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Ovenbird, Louisiana Water

Thrush, Yellow-breasted Chat, Redstart, English Sparrow, Purple Grackle, Meadowlark, Orchard Oriole, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Goldfinch, Pine Siskin, Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Purple Finch; and the following Warblers: Black and White, Golden Winged, Parula, Yellow, Magnolia, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Myrtle, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Yellow-throated, Chestnut-sided, Bay-breasted, Black Poll, Pine, Prairie, Palm, Kentucky, Southern Yellow-throat, and Hooded. Total 78 species.

ELLISON A. WILLIAMS, Charleston, S. C.

ALBINO STARLING AT RALEIGH, N. C.: Since albino Starlings, and in fact albino birds of any species, are quite a rarity, I thought that the readers of *The Chat* might like to see a photograph of a White Starling which first came to my feeding place in Raleigh, on August 31st, 1946. On the next day the white Starling returned and I made several snapshots. The light was poor, but I thought I should



White and Normal Starling at Feeding Station at Raleigh, N. C., Sept. 1, 1946

get them while I could. The bird came back to the feeding station many times for about two weeks, and I have not seen it since, though ordinary Starlings have continued to visit the feeding place.

H. C. THURMAN.

PARTIAL ALBINO BLUE JAY AT RALEIGH, N. C.: I was interested in reading in the March 1947 issue of *The Chat* a note regarding an Albino Blue Jay seen in Raleigh during January 1947. Beginning in 1942, I taught at State College for several years, or rather was predominately research man on ornamental plant production, and during the early spring of 1942, the summer of 1943, and in the late

fall of 1944, I saw, in the vicinity of our greenhouses, a Blue Jay with extremely light blue plumage. The bird was definitely not an albino, but was so light as to be very conspicuous both in flight and when perched in trees. The bird underwent an evident change of plumage color during the seasons. During the summer of 1943 the feathers were almost white. In fact several members of the staff to whom I showed the bird were of the opinion that it was white. The jay had a particular tree, a large willow oak, near our greenhouses, into whose branches it congregated with other birds, hiding in the leafy interior and showing only when flying away. The jay seemed to be readily accepted by the other jays, but did seem more than usually reluctant to be seen or heard. I have no specific data regarding the general life span of Blue Jays. Recently I read the monograph on jays and crows released by the National Museum, and representing the lifetime work of the 80-year old author—but found nothing really to the point on life span. Could it be possible that the bird seen by myself and other observers over a six-year period is the same bird? It was always seen in the same area, a fact which I verified for four years at least.

L. G. MCLEAN.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.: I had a Purple Finch, female or immature, remain with me this spring until May 25th, which I believe is a new record for the state. I banded this bird on Mar. 30, and recaptured it on April 4, 24, 25, and 27, then finally on May 11th. I saw just one bird after this and which I feel sure was the same bird, on May 12, 17, 18, 19, 23, and 25th—my last record. This bird had a peculiar side-ways flight. I think perhaps that is why it did not migrate with the flock and it is just such possibilities that might account for number of unusual late dates in the state. Most of the Purple Finches left here around April 17th.

The Edgecombe County game warden, W. H. Whitley, reported a pair of Canada Geese at Nobles Mill Pond, 10 miles east of Rocky Mount, during the week of June 15th. Perhaps winged birds unable to fly north with the flock.

On May 15th, two boys from the East Carolina Training School, 3 miles north of Rocky Mount, reported to me they had climbed a tall oak and looked into a nest 45 feet above the ground placed half way out on the lowest limb of a tall pine in the pasture of the school. The nest contained one young bird and 3 eggs. On May 18th, I visited the site of the nest and found four egg shells on the ground under the nest. We flushed the old birds, which the boys said they had been told were bitterns, but I was unable to positively identify them other than as being herons and not bitterns. On May 29th, the young birds were able to stick their heads up so that they could be seen from the ground. On June 5th, two of the birds fell or were shoved out of the nest to die on the ground below. On June 8th, while taking movies of the young birds, I saw the old birds for the first time well enough to positively identify them as Yellow-crowned Night Herons. One old bird lit in a tree 25 feet from the nest and remained there for about an hour, never approaching the nest that I might photograph it. On June 11, the two remaining young birds were still in the nest. On June 15, the two young were out of the nest and on a limb nearby. While photographing them again on June 18, one of the young took off on its first flight, which it seemed to do quite naturally and with the greatest of ease. The other bird scampered around on the limb near the nest. It could so effectively hide behind small branches of pine that although I was trying to photograph it from a stand 35 feet up in another pine and 25 feet away, I was unable to see it. The young remained almost motionless most of the time when I attempted to make movies of them. Occasionally they would "hassel" like a dog, their mouths open and the loose muscles under their lower bill quivering. The immature birds appeared very much like bitterns.

(June 21, 1947.)

J. W. E. JOYNER

HENDERSON, N. C.: Observations by Henderson Bird Club. *Last dates for 1946-1947 Winter Visitors:* Baldpate, Apr. 12; Canvasback, Feb. 17; Ruddy Duck, Mch. 30; Coot, Mch. 30; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Mch. 30; Red-breasted Nuthatch, May, 11; Brown Creeper, Apr. 8; Hermit Thrush, Apr. 19; Golden-crowned Kinglet, Mch. 23; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, May 1; Cedar Waxwing, May 13; Myrtle Warbler, May 16; Palm Warbler, May 8; Purple Finch, Apr. 22; Savannah Sparrow, May 10; Swamp Sparrow, May 10; Junco, Apr. 26; White-throated Sparrow, May 15; Fox Sparrow, Mch. 25 (seen in unusually large numbers this year); Song Sparrow, Apr. 12. *Arrival dates of 1947 spring migrants and summer visitors:* Little Blue Heron, Apr. 12; Green Heron, Apr. 12; Osprey, Mch. 8-Apr. 12; Spotted Sandpiper, Apr. 12; Solitary Sandpiper, May 10-12; Greater Yellowlegs, Apr. 26; Lesser Yellowlegs, Apr. 26; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, May 1; Nighthawk, May 10; Chimney Swift, Apr. 7; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Apr. 29; Eastern Kingbird, Apr. 22; Crested Flycatcher, Apr. 19; Acadian Flycatcher, May 5; Wood Peewee, Apr. 26; Tree Swallow, May 10; Rough-winged Swallow, Mch. 30; Barn Swallow, May 8; House Wren, Apr. 19; Catbird, Apr. 8; Wood Thrush, Apr. 9; Olive-back Thrush, Apr. 29-May 17; Veery, Apr. 28-May 11; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Apr. 7; White-eyed Vireo, Apr. 7; Yellow-throated Vireo, Apr. 12; Blue-headed Vireo, Apr. 9 (three nests found; the first ever reported here); Red-eyed Vireo, Apr. 19; Black and White Warbler, Mch. 31; Prothonotary Warbler, Apr. 21 (first I had ever seen here); Worm-eating Warbler, May 7 (first I had seen here); Parula Warbler, Apr. 26-May 17; Yellow Warbler, Apr. 17; Blue-winged Warbler, Apr. 26-30 (rare transient); Cape May Warbler, Apr. 30-May 8; Black-throated Blue Warbler, Apr. 21-May 17; Chestnut-sided Warbler, May 17; Blackburnian Warbler, May 7; Yellow-throated Warbler, Apr. 7; Black-poll Warbler, Apr. 24-June 3; Prairie Warbler, Apr. 12; Ovenbird, Apr. 7; Louisiana Water-thrush, Apr. 7 (nest found with 4 fledglings May 12; gone from nest May 16); Northern Water-thrush, no date; Kentucky Warbler, Apr. 30 (nest found with 4 eggs May 17; young half feathered May 25); Maryland Yellow-throat, Apr. 7; Yellow-breasted Chat, Apr. 30; Hooded Warbler, Apr. 8 (nest found June 1; young gone but nearby); Canada Warbler, May 8-9; Wilson's Warbler, May 10; Redstart, Apr. 7; Bobolink (300), May 3-10; Orchard Oriole, Apr. 26 (a flock in migration May 6, all first year males—Davis); Baltimore Oriole, May 8; Purple Grackle, Mch. 29; Scarlet Tanager, Apr. 29-May 16; Summer Tanager, Apr. 18; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Apr. 22-26; Indigo Bunting, Apr. 26; Bachman's Sparrow, Apr. 12 (first record for club); Chipping Sparrow, Mch. 27.

(June 1, 1947.)

JEANNETTE S. BACHMAN, Henderson, N. C.

SPRING BIRD COUNT AT GREENSBORO, N. C., NETS 125 SPECIES: (Section 15 miles in diameter; approximately region as last several years, including Pinecroft, Starmount, Municipal Golf Course, Richardson Estate, Greensboro Country Park, Lakes Brandt, Seales, Benjamin, Richland [Jeannette], Philadelphia, Buffalo, Sharp, and White Oak Pond; deciduous and pine woodlands 25%, open fields and golf courses 25%, cattail marsh and thickets 15%; fresh water lakes 25%, city yards, parkways and campuses 10%). Apr. 26—5:30 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Weather clear and windy in morning; fair and clear during afternoon. Thirty-five observers, mostly in 10 parties. Total hours, 98; total miles on foot 58, by car 71. Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Great Blue Heron, 2; Green Heron, 6; Blue-winged Teal, 2; Wood Duck, 5; L. Scaup Duck, 29; Red-breasted Merganser, 1; Turkey Vulture, 62; Black Vulture, 2; Cooper's Hawk, 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 5; Red-shouldered Hawk, 5; Broad-winged Hawk, 3; Osprey, 4; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Bobwhite, 49; Coot, 1; Killdeer, 9; Woodcock, 1; Wilson's Snipe, 2; Spotted Sandpiper, 17; Solitary Sandpiper, 19;

Lesser Yellow-legs, 1; Bonaparte's Gull, 4 (L. C., H. L. M., and H. M., Jr., observed one at Lake Brandt and three at Richland Lake; total 1 ad., 3 imm.; close range with 20x telescope); Dove, 64; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 2; Barred Owl, 2; Whip-poor-will, 4; Night Hawk, 16; Chimney Swift, 310; Hummingbird, 2; Kingfisher, 4; Flicker, 80; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 12; Red-headed Woodpecker, 6; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 5; Downy Woodpecker, 27; Eastern Kingbird, 19; Crested Flycatcher, 20; Phoebe, 34; Acadian Flycatcher, 1; Wood Pewee, 6; Horned Lark, 1; Tree Swallow, 50; Bank Swallow, 3; Rough-winged Swallow, 47; Barn Swallow, 20; Purple Martin, 65; Blue Jay, 84; Crow, 94; Chickadee, 71; Tufted Titmouse, 91; Brown Creeper, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 12; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 9; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 2; House Wren, 77; Carolina Wren, 101; Winter Wren, 1; Mockingbird, 127; Catbird, 65; Brown Thrasher, 111; Robin, 306; Wood Thrush, 123; Hermit Thrush, 4; Olive-backed Thrush, 1; Bluebird, 91; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 97; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 11; Cedar Waxwing, 38; Shrike, 2; Starling, 317; White-eyed Vireo, 45; Yellow-throated Vireo, 39; Blue-headed Vireo, 10; Red-eyed Vireo, 130; Black and White Warbler, 27; Worm-eating W., 2; Parula W., 32; Yellow W., 39; Magnolia W., 5; Cape May W., 7; Black-throated Blue W., 12; Myrtle W., 164; Black-throated Green W., 6; Blackburnian W., 1; Yellow-throated W., 12; Chestnut-sided W., 4; Black-poll W., 2; (J. C., S. L.); Pine W., 52; Prairie W., 42; Yellow Palm W., 7; Ovenbird, 72; Louisiana Water-Thrush, 6; Maryland Yellow-throat, 67; Yellow-breasted Chat, 12; Hooded Warbler, 42; Redstart, 62; English Sparrow, 287; Meadowlark, 56; Red-winged Blackbird, 205; Orchard Oriole, 5; Baltimore Oriole, 1; Purple Grackle, 12; Scarlet Tanager, 8; Summer Tanager, 50; Cardinal, 178; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 2; Blue Grosbeak, 1; Indigo Bunting, 3; Purple Finch, 48; Pine Siskin, 52; Goldfinch, 3728; Towhee, 147; Savannah Sparrow, 1; Grasshopper Sparrow, 6; Henslow's Sparrow, 2; (J. T. Jr., B. C., Mrs. F. H. C.); Bachman's Sparrow, 3; Junco, 12; Chipping Sparrow, 408; Field Sparrow, 118; White-throated Sparrow, 239; Swamp Sparrow, 7; Song Sparrow, 29; Total species, 125; total individuals, 9314. Observers: Dr. Frank Brown, John Carr, Mrs. W. C. Carr, Miss Inez Coldwell, Bill Craft, Mrs. F. H. Craft, Larry Crawford, Dr. Charlotte Dawley, Mrs. R. D. Douglas, Mrs. Grace Favor, Mrs. E. J. Fillinger, Raymond Kaighn, Miss Sarah Lesley, Dr. and Mrs. Franklin McNutt, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Medford, Hugh Medford, Jr., Oscar Paris, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Perrett, Miss Etta Schiffman, Mrs. Edith Settan, Mrs. R. E. Settan, Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, Geo. A. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Swart, Dr. Wesley Taylor, Thatcher Townsend, John Trott, Jr., Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, Miss Margaret Stewart, Miss Elaine Kelly, and Miss Mary Blue—members and guests of the Piedmont Bird Club. (May 30, 1947.)

SPRING COUNT, NEW LONDON (Stanly County), N. C. Town of New London, Isenhour Estate, 2 miles stretch of Yadkin river banks and water, areas along highway from New London to Yadkin river; open fields and hedge rows 50%, water 20%, deciduous and pine woodland 24%, roadsides 6%—May 17; 6 A.M.-7 P.M. Clear; dry, few clouds; Temp. 90°. Three observers in one party. Total hours 13; total miles 30 (6 on foot, 20 by car, 4 by boat): Green Heron, 1; Wood Duck, 1; Turkey Vulture, 6; Black Vulture, 1; Cooper's Hawk, 1; Broad-winged Hawk, 1; Bob-white, 5; Killdeer, 6; Spotted Sandpiper, 4; Lesser Yellow-legs, 1; Mourning Dove, 8; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 3; Barred Owl, 1; Whip-poor-will, 1; Nighthawk, 1; Chimney Swift, 20; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 3; Flicker, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Kingbird, 1; Crested Flycatcher, 2; Phoebe, 25; Acadian Flycatcher, 2; Wood Pewee, 20; Rough-winged Swallow, 5; Purple Martin, 5; Blue Jay, 4; Crow, 10; Carolina

Chickadee, 15; Tufted Titmouse, 3; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 1; House Wren, 2; Carolina Wren, 25; Mockingbird, 4; Catbird, 7; Brown Thrasher, 10; Robin, 10; Wood Thrush, 8; Bluebird, 20; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 4; Starling, 100; White-eyed Vireo, 8; Yellow-throated Vireo, 1; Red-eyed Vireo, 30; Black and White Warbler, 1; Prothonotary Warbler, 6; Parula Warbler, 1; Black-throated Green W., 1; Yellow-throated W., 2; Black-poll W., 4; Pine W., 25; Prairie W., 8; Ovenbird, 2; Kentucky W., 2; Yellow-throat, 6; Yellow-breasted Chat, 15; Hooded Warbler, 7; Redstart, 2; English Sparrow, 100; Bobolink, 30; Meadowlark, 4; Red-wing, 10; Orchard Oriole, 12; Summer Tanager, 2; Cardinal, 40; Blue Grosbeak, 2; Indigo Bunting, 16; Goldfinch, 13; Grasshopper Sparrow, 3; Bachman's Sparrow, 1; Chipping Sp., 25; Field Sp., 20; White-throated Sp., 2. Total: 77 species; about 750 individuals.

MR. AND MRS. BARRETT CROOK, and JOHN TROTT, JR. (Compiler)

(The following nests were seen during the day the census was taken: Mourning Dove, 2; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Phoebe, 2; Purple Martin, 3; Carolina Chickadee, 2; Carolina Wren, 1; House Wren, 1; Mockingbird, 1; Catbird, 1; Brown Thrasher, 3; Robin, 6; Bluebird, 4; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 2; Yellow-breasted Chat, 2; Cardinal, 2; Chipping Sparrow, 4; Field Sparrow, 2.)

(May 28, 1947.)

SPRING CENSUS, MOUNT OLIVE, N. C. Wooten, Williams, and Brandon farms, Jones Mill, Seven Springs, and "The Cliffs" State Park; open fields 50%, pine woods 10%, mixed pine and deciduous woods 35%, small ponds 5%. May 10—dawn to dusk. Fair all day; temp. 55-75°F.; little wind. Four observers, mostly together. Total hours, 14; total miles 35 (five on foot, thirty on car). Pied-billed Grebe, 1; Great Blue Heron, 5; American Egret, 1; Green Heron, 3; Least Bittern, 1; Wood Duck, 6; Black Vulture, 15; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, 4; Bob-white, 10; Rail (Sora or Virginia), 1; Killdeer, 4; Wilson's Snipe, 1; Spotted Sandpiper, 9; Solitary Sandpiper, 2; Greater Yellow-legs, 4; Lesser Yellow-legs, 2; Least Sandpiper, 1; Semipalmated Sandpiper, 2; Mourning Dove, 50 (est.); Yellow-billed Cuckoo, 5; Screech Owl, 1; Chuck-will's-widow, 1; Nighthawk, 2; Chimney Swift, 200; Hummingbird, 8; Kingfisher, 6; Flicker, 8; Pileated Woodpecker, 4; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 14; Hairy Woodpecker, 1; Downy Woodpecker, 7; Kingbird, 28; Crested Flycatcher, 11; Acadian Flycatcher, 9; Wood Pewee, 32; Tree Swallow, 6; Rough-winged Swallow, 19; Barn Swallow, 10; Purple Martin, 8; Blue Jay, 7; Crow, 50 (est.); Carolina Chickadee, 17; Tufted Titmouse, 13; White-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 11; Carolina Wren 35; Mockingbird, 24; Catbird, 40 (est.); Brown Thrasher, 3; Robin, 5; Wood Thrush, 18; Gray-cheeked Thrush, 2; (B. H., J. T., S. M., Mrs. A.—olive-brown above, rufous entirely lacking, absence of any eye-ring, grayish cheeks); Bluebird, 25; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 60 (est.); Cedar Waxwing, 2; Shrike, 7; Starling, 35; White-eyed Vireo, 50 (est.); Yellow-th. Vireo, 14; Red-eyed Vireo, 40; Black and White Warbler, 7; Prothonotary W., 3+; Nashville W., 2; (slate-blue head, white eye-ring, yellow throat and breast, no wing bars, tiny bit of brown in forehead—J. T., Jr., S. M., B. H. III); Parula W., 20; Yellow W., 2; Black-th. Blue W., 4; Myrtle W., 11; Yellow-th. W., 26; Black-poll W., 35 (est.); Pine W., 8; Prairie W., 30; Yellow Palm W., 1; Louisiana Water Thrush, 5; Yellow-throat, 24; Chat, 3; Hooded W., 18; Redstart, 4; English Sparrow, 300; Meadowlark, 16; Red-winged Blackbird, 40 (est.); Orchard Oriole, 36; Purple Grackle, 1; Summer Tanager, 27; Cardinal, 50; Blue Grosbeak, 3; Indigo Bunting, 12; Goldfinch, 40; Towhee, 45; Savannah Sparrow, 4; Bachman's Sparrow, 2; Chipping Sparrow, 100; Field Sparrow, 38; White-th. Sparrow, 15; Swamp Sparrow, 7; Song Sparrow, 1; Total species 96.

SANDY McCULLOCH, JOHN TROTT, JR., MRS. CECIL APPLEBERRY, AND BOB HOLMES, III. (Many of the individuals of the much more common species were estimated, as it was impossible to keep an accurate count on these birds). Seen during the preceding week: Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, and Bobolink (May 4.) The Nashville Warbler and Grey-cheeked Thrush are both new for this area. Two of each were seen, the thrush being seen both before and after the census day.

SPRING COUNT AT RALEIGH, N. C., April 26, 1947: Dawn to dusk. Cool and cloudy in early part of day, warm and clear rest of day. Territory covered same as for Christmas census. Species observed: Common Loon; Double-crested Cormorant; Great Blue, Little Blue, and Green Herons; Black Duck; Gadwall; Turkey and Black Vultures; Cooper's, Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, Broad-winged, and Marsh Hawks; Osprey; Bobwhite; King Rail; Killdeer; Spotted, and Solitary Sandpipers; Greater and Lesser Yellow-legs; Herring Gull; Caspian Tern. Mourning Dove; Yellow-billed and Black-billed Cuckoos; Great-horned, and Barred Owls; Chuck-will's Widow; Whip-poor-Will; Chimney Swift; Ruby-throated Hummingbird; Kingfisher; Flicker; Red-bellied, Red-headed Woodpeckers; Kingbird; Crested Flycatcher; Phoebe; Acadian Flycatcher; Wood Pewee; Tree, Rough-winged, and Barn Swallows; Blue Jay; Crow; Chickadee; Tufted Titmouse; White-breasted, Red-breasted, and Brown-headed Nuthatches; House, Winter, Bewick's, and Carolina Wrens; Mockingbird; Catbird; Brown Thrasher; Robin; Wood Thrush; Hermit Thrush; Bluebird; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Cedar Waxwing; Shrike; Starling; White-eyed, Yellow-throated, Blue-headed, and Red-eyed Vireos; Black and White, Worm-eating, Parula, Yellow, Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Myrtle, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Yellow-throated, Black-poll, Pine, Prairie, and Palm Warblers; Ovenbird; Louisiana Water-thrush; Maryland Yellow-throat; Chat; Hooded Warbler; Redstart; English Sparrow; Bobolink; Meadowlark; Redwing; Orchard Oriole; Purple Grackle; Cowbird; Summer Tanager; Cardinal; Blue Grosbeak; Indigo Bunting; Purple Finch; Goldfinch; Towhee; Savannah, and Grasshopper Sparrows; Junco; Chipping, Field, White-throated, Swamp, and Song Sparrows; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers. Total 117 species. Observers: *D. L. Wray, F. B. Meacham, Mrs. C. H. Green, Miss Virginia Pickell, Jo Ann Meacham, Kenneth Maultsby, Robt. Overing, and Girl Scout Troop 27, E. W. Winkler, Mrs. J. Y. Phelps and Girl Scout Troop, George Horel, Norman McCulloch, Will Hon, Ernest Mitchell, Phillip Davis, E. O. Bagley, and Leon Edwards.*

WILMINGTON, N. C., SPRING COUNT, Apr. 19, 1947, dawn to dusk. Weather, cool and sunny, temp. 64°F. Area covered same as Christmas count. Common Loon; Pied-billed Grebe; Double-crested Cormorant; Great Blue Heron; American Egret; Snowy Egret; Louisiana, Little Blue, Green, and Black-crowned Night Herons; American Bittern; Gadwall; Wood Duck; Buffle-head; American, and Red-breasted Mergansers; Turkey, and Black Vultures; Cooper's and Red-shouldered Hawks; Bald Eagle; Marsh Hawk; Osprey; Sparrow Hawk; Bobwhite; Clapper Rail; Oyster Catcher; Semi-palmated, and Wilson's Plovers; Killdeer; Black-bellied Plover; Wilson's Snipe; Hudsonian Curlew; Spotted Sandpiper; Willet; Greater, and Lesser Yellow-legs; Red-backed Sandpiper; Semipalmated Sandpiper; Sanderling; Herring, Ring-billed, and Laughing Gulls; Common, Least, and Royal Terns; Black Skimmer; Mourning Dove; Yellow-billed Cuckoo; Screech Owl; Nighthawk; Chimney Swift; Ruby-throated Hummingbird; Belted Kingfisher; Flicker; Pileated, Red-bellied, Red-headed, Hairy, Downy, and Red-cockaded Woodpeckers; Eastern Kingbird; Crested Flycatcher; Phoebe; Wood Pewee; Barn Swallow; Purple Martin;

Blue Jay; Crow; Fish Crow; Chickadee; Tufted Titmouse; Red-breasted, and Brown-headed Nuthatches; House, Winter, and Carolina Wrens; Mockingbird; Catbird; Brown Thrasher; Robin; Wood Thrush; Hermit Thrush; Bluebird; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; Golden-crowned, and Ruby-crowned Kinglets; Cedar Waxwing; Shrike; Starling; White-eyed, Yellow-throated, Blue-headed, and Red-eyed Vireos; Black and White, Prothonotary, Parula, Yellow, Black-throated Blue, Myrtle, Yellow-throated, Pine, Prairie, and Palm Warblers; Louisiana Water-Thrush, Yellow-throat; Yellow-breasted Chat; Hooded Warbler; Redstart; English Sparrow; Meadowlark; Red-winged Blackbird; Orchard Oriole; Boat-tailed, and Purple Grackle; Scarlet, and Summer Tanager; Cardinal; Blue Grosbeak; Painted Bunting; Purple Finch; Goldfinch; Towhee; Savannah, Seaside, and Bachman's Sparrows; Junco; Chipping, Field, White-throated, Swamp, and Song Sparrows. Total species, 132. Observers: *Mrs. Wilfred Carr, John Carr, Larry Crawford, Bill Craft, John Trott, Sandy McCulloch, D. L. Wray, John Funderburg, Dr. Tom Hall, Claude McAllister, Mary Baker, Polly Mebane, Cecil Appleberry, Mrs. Cecil Appleberry* (compiler).

With the Editor

THE CORNELL BIRD SONG RECORDS— are again available. The six double disc phonograph records of American bird songs, on the new vinylite plastic, may be secured from the Comstock Publishing Company, 124 Roberts Place, Ithaca, N. Y. Price, \$8.50, postpaid.

WINTER BIRDS—Enjoy sunflower seeds, and sunflower seeds are hard to get in quantity, so Henry Magie, at Winston-Salem, planted 80 "Giant Russian," around his vegetable garden, enjoyed the attractive flowers, and gathered 14 quarts of seed; plump, appetizing fare for his Cardinals this winter.

N. C. GETS U. S. FUND FOR WILDLIFE RESTORATION: For the fiscal year ending July 1, 1948, North Carolina has been allotted from federal funds the sum of \$105,515, it has been announced by the U. S. Department of the Interior. With the state's addition of 25%, the fund will total approximately \$130,000.

BIRD SLIDES FOR LOAN TO SCHOOLS AND CLUBS—are available at the North Carolina State Museum. The Museum has 94 2x2 Kodachrome Slides of Birds of the Eastern United States, and 6 Slide Film sets, 2x2, for Basic Bird Study. Mailing charges or express is the only cost. Communicate with: North Carolina State Museum, Raleigh, N. C.

DR. JOHN H. GREY HEADS VIRGINIA ORNITHOLOGISTS: Dr. John H. Grey, Jr., who was one of the organizers of the North Carolina Bird Club and who edited *The Chat* during its first eight years, was elected President of the Virginia Ornithological Society at its annual meeting, which was held last May, in Charlottesville, Va. Dr. Grey is pastor of the Charlottesville Presbyterian Church.

TWO ACRES OF SUNFLOWERS—were planted this summer on the farm of W. C. Fownes, on the Southern Pines-Carthage, N. C. Road, and the seed is being saved to feed the birds that spend the winter here. A few sunflowers were grown last year, said Curtis Bennett, who operates the farm, but the seed were so well liked that two acres were devoted to them this year. Fownes has several bird feeding sta-

tions in the grove around his house, and enjoys putting out the daily meals for the birds.

DATES FOR 1947 CHRISTMAS COUNT—are December 20 to December 28, inclusive. Now is the time to check over your local area for your Christmas count and get your plans organized. Last year, for the first time, we included publication of counts from South Carolina. We hope several more South Carolina localities will be covered in the 1947 count. Local clubs, groups, and individuals are asked to make counts wherever possible. Enlist the help of every local bird enthusiast in this enjoyable game and see that beginners go with more experienced observers.

AUDUBON SCREEN TOUR AT CHAPEL HILL: Five lectures, with color motion pictures of American birds and other wildlife, are being brought to Chapel Hill this year by the Chapel Hill Bird Club. The dates are as follows: Nov. 7, Bert Harwell; Jan. 22, Howard Cleaves; Feb. 18, Harold and Alice Allen; March 25, Allan Cruickshank; Apr. 16, Alexander Sprunt, Jr. The lectures will be given at the Pick Theatre, at Chapel Hill, at 8:00 p.m. Season tickets may be secured for \$2.00 each, by writing to Mrs. Harold Walter, President Chapel Hill Bird Club, Chapel Hill, N. C.

SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUBS: More than 10,000 schools in the United States and 18 foreign countries, are taking part in a program set up by the Science Clubs of America, which is a non-profit organization sponsored by Science Service, of Washington, D. C. SCA aids students and teachers in organizing local science clubs. It suggests projects, tells how to get science publications and materials free or at low cost, and helps various local groups work together. Teachers or students interested in organizing or joining a science club, if their school does not already have one, should write to: Science Clubs of America, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

AUDUBON SCREEN TOURS AT WILMINGTON, N. C.: The Wilmington Bird Club is sponsoring the Audubon Screen Tours during the coming season. Here are their speakers and dates: Nov. 6, Bert Harwell; Jan 21, Howard Cleaves; Feb. 17, Alice and Harold Allen; March 24, Allan Cruickshank; Apr. 21, Alexander Sprunt. Season tickets for this series of five lectures and splendid colored moving pictures of animal life, presented by famous naturalists, are \$2.00 each, for adults, and may be secured by writing to Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, President Wilmington Bird Club, 5 Lake Forest Parkway, Wilmington, N. C. All tours will be at the New Hanover High School, at 8:15 P.M.

FIELD TRIP TO PEA ISLAND: The North Carolina Bird Club is planning a field trip to Pea Island Wildlife Refuge, on the North Carolina coast, on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, December 5th, 6th, and 7th, just before the opening of the wildfowl hunting season. Accommodations are limited, and reservations should be made at once to: Bob Wolff, Y. M. C. A., Goldsboro, N. C. Reservations must be paid for unless cancelled in plenty of time to be used by others.

FOUR N. C. B. C. MEMBERS ATTEND MAINE NATURE CAMP: Mrs. Edith Settan, Greensboro; J. W. E. (Bill) Joyner, Rocky Mount; and Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, Greensboro, each attended one of the two weeks terms at the National Audubon Society's Nature Camp this summer in Todd Wildlife Sanctuary, an island in Muscongus Bay, about 60 miles northeast of Portland, Maine, enjoying the outdoor sessions by the sea and participating in informal field classes studying birds, plants, insects, and marine life, with practical demonstrations of suggestions for

developing nature and conservation programs. A fourth N. C. B. C. member, John Trott, of New London, who was lucky enough to win a competitive scholarship, attended all of the sessions from June to August, assisting in the work of the camp. Mrs. Wall received \$100 scholarship awarded for the camp by the North Carolina Bird Club.

SCHOOL TEACHERS AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN NATURE—will be glad to know that the North Carolina State Museum has available many valuable Information Circulars. The following mimeographed and printed circulars are available *free*: Meteorites—Pieces of Stars; North Carolina Gold; North Carolina Gem Stones; Fossil Whales in Eastern North Carolina; Mastodons in Eastern North Carolina; Native Poisonous Plants; Important Honey Plants of North Carolina; Insects and Entomology; Raising Earthworms; The Black Widow Spider; Aquaria and Terraria; Some Common Harmless Snakes of North Carolina; Tanning Snake and Other Small Skins; Some Common North Carolina Birds for November; Bird Feeding Stations; To Make a Bird Calendar; Bird Banding; Making Up a Bird Skin; The Cardinal—Our State Bird; O'possums; Bats—Flying Mammals; The White-Tail Deer—Game and Trophy. Please ask only for those which you actually need. The Museum has for sale, at cost: Birds of North Carolina, 450 pages, illustrated, \$3.50; Reptiles of North Carolina, 32 pages, 50c; Poisonous Snakes of Eastern United States and First Aid Guide, well illustrated, 10c; Common Forest Trees of North Carolina, 87 pages, illustrated, 10c; Important Food and Game Fishes of North Carolina, 54 pages, well illustrated, 25c. Address communications, with remittance where necessary, to: North Carolina State Museum, Raleigh, N. C.

HEART RATE OF SMALL BIRDS: Since 1910, when Buchanan recorded the heartbeat of a canary as 1,000 a minute, it has been known that the heartbeat of small birds is very rapid. Dr. Eugene P. Odum, of the University of Georgia, in a recent report of some of his work in measuring the heartbeats of canaries and nine species of wild birds, ranging in size from Mourning Dove to Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Science*, Feb. 9), states that such rates as 1,000 or greater are reached only for brief intervals under excitement or vigorous exercises; the basal rates are much lower. In general, smaller species have a more rapid rate, though this is not invariable. Thus the basal rate for Mourning Dove is 135, maximum 537; Cardinal, basal rate 375, maximum 800; Towhee, basal rate 445, maximum 810; English Sparrow, basal rate 350, maximum 902; Chipping Sparrow, basal rate 440, maximum 1060; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, basal rate 615, maximum not given. Sufficient data were not available to justify a statement regarding possible sex differences in rate, such as have been previously recorded for domestic fowl. In one species, Black-capped Chickadee, Odum has shown a definitely higher rate in summer than in winter. In altricial species, those born naked and blind, Odum found that the young when first hatched, are cold blooded, like lizards and frogs, and their heart rate then varies directly with the temperature, as does a frog's heart. The instrument used for accurately counting the beats is a cardio-vibrometer, which is attached to a twig perch or under the nest, and picks up for an electrical recorder the slightest vibrations, without disturbing the birds.

Important Notice

FALL MEETING OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

Place: Charlotte, N. C.—At the Y. M. C. A. Fresh Air Camp (formerly the Observer Fresh Air Camp), about fourteen miles south of Charlotte, on the Charlotte-York highway, Number 49, just across the Catawba river.

Dates: October 18-19.

Accomodations: For \$4.50 dinner and lodging will be provided Saturday, with breakfast Sunday morning, and also lunch Sunday noon. (No reductions can be made for children. Nor can refunds be made for meals not attended or for bunks not occupied.) The 'Y' bunks are not bad—they are provided with mattress and springs. You must bring your own sheets, blankets, pillows, and towels. Men and women will be assigned to separate cabins.

Time to Arrive: Members and guests should arrive early enough Saturday afternoon to register and be assigned to sleeping cabins before the evening meal. Registration will begin at 3:00 o'clock Saturday afternoon at the Big Lodge.

Tentative Program: Registration begins at 3:00 P.M. on Saturday, October 18th. The guests will then be assigned to their cabins where they may rest, or may join in informal walks about the river front. At 6:00 P.M. the big meal of the meeting will begin. The Rev. JOHN H. GREY, JR., of Charlottesville, Va., will be the guest speaker. Dr. Grey, who was one of the founders of the North Carolina Bird Club and editor of *The Chat* during its first eight years, and who is now president of the Virginia Ornithological Society, will talk about "Shorebirds Along the Carolina Coast." This talk will be illustrated with slides and colored moving pictures and other features and varied entertainment are planned for the Saturday evening meeting. Following the meeting, fire will be built in a large open fire-place for those who do not care to retire early.

Breakfast will be served at a reasonable hour to permit optional walks before and after the meal, and lunch will be ready for those who must make an early start.

This plan to entertain the whole group at one place will provide a much needed opportunity for members of the various local clubs to compare notes and enjoy each other's companionship in a delightful out-door setting.

Let's join with Charlotte's Mecklenburg Audubon Club and make this one of the most enjoyable fall meetings N. C. B. C. has ever held. Please send your reservations, and checks, as soon as possible, to B. R. CHAMBERLAIN, 1320 Biltmore Drive, Charlotte, N. C. If cancellation becomes necessary, be sure that yours is in by October 13th. Make checks payable to the Mecklenburg Audubon Club.

LOCAL CLUBS AND THEIR OFFICERS

Arden, Roscraggon Wood, Inc.: P—Harold B. Swope, Skyland; V-P—Dr. Leigh Robinson, Skyland; S-T—Mrs. W. H. Lashley, Royal Pines; Board of Governors—Dr. Graham Harden, Skyland; Miss Susan Sheppard, Skyland; Kenneth Carr, Skyland.

Asheville Bird Club: P—R. H. Rembert; V-P—Miss Margaret Decker; S—Mrs. M. F. Meredith, 10 Castle St.; T—Mrs. Francis E. Field.

Blowing Rock, Blowing Rock Audubon Club: P—Miss Lena Reeves; V-P—Mrs. Joe Winkler.

Boone Bird Club: P—Dr. Robert King; V-P—Mrs. W. M. Burwell; S-T—Miss Cora Jeffcoat.

Chapel Hill Bird Club: P—Mrs. Harold Walters; V-P—David Frey; S-T—Mrs. David Olson, Box 998; Publicity Chairman—Mrs. Horace D. Crockford.

Charlotte, Mecklenburg Audubon Club: P—B. Rhett Chamberlain, 1320 Biltmore Drive; V-P—Miss Anne Locke and Mrs. George Potter; S—Miss Connie Thigpen, 1215 Greenwood Cliff; T—Mrs. W. B. Simons.

Durham, Duke-Durham Bird Club: P—Miss Bertha B. Hopkins, 506 Buchanan Road; S-T—Mrs. M. W. Johnson.

Greensboro, Piedmont Bird Club: P—Miss Etta Schiffman; V-P—Mrs. W. C. Carr and Kenneth Wible; Rec. S—Mrs. R. D. Douglas; T—Miss Sarah Lesley; Cor. S—Mrs. J. S. Teague; Ex. Comm.—Officers and Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury and Dr. Charlotte Dawley.

Guilford College, T. Gilbert Pearson Bird Club: P—Elizabeth Hare; V-P—J. G. Gilbert; S-T—Margery Pickett.

Henderson Bird Club: P—Mrs. A. W. Bachman; V-P—Mrs. T. C. Gill; S-T—Miss Agnes Pegram.

Hickory Bird Club: P—J. Weston Clinard; V-P—Mrs. George E. Bisanar; S-T—Mrs. George Fuller.

Lenoir Audubon Club: P—Miss Margaret Harper; V-P—R. T. Greer; S—Miss May Puett, 512 West Harper St.

Lumberton Bird Club: P—James Stephens, Jr.; V-P—Mrs. Henry McKinnon; S—Mrs. D. L. Whiting; T—Miss Lillian Whiting.

Mount Airy Bird Club: P—Mrs. J. Bruce Yokley; V-P—O. W. Kochitsky; S—Mrs. H. G. Long; T—Fred Johnson.

Raleigh Bird Club: P—Mrs. A. J. Skaale; V-P—Dr. David L. Wray; S—Frank B. Meacham, N. C. State Museum; Ex-Comm.—Officers, and Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green and Harry T. Davis.

Roanoke Rapids Bird Club: P—Mrs. A. O. Pendleton, R 1, Bolling Rd.; V-P—Miss Clara Hearne; S-T—Mrs. T. L. O'Briant, 538 Vance St.

Rocky Mount, Francis H. Craighill Bird Club: P—J. W. E. Joyner; V-P—The Rev. Gray Temple; S—Miss Dorothy Craighill; T—Miss Lilly Shearin; Members of Executive Committee—Mrs. Fairy Bandy and Mrs. J. W. E. Joyner.

Southern Pines Bird Club: P—Mary Keller Wintyen; V-P & S—Miss Louise Haynes; T. & Rec. Sec.—Miss Norma Shiring.

Statesville Audubon Club: P—Miss Nancy B. Eliason; V-P—Miss Grace Anderson; S—Mrs. Calhoun Ramsey; T—Mrs. Earl Davis.

Tryon Bird Club: P—G. H. Holmes; S-T—Katherine D. Hamilton.

Wilmington Bird Club: P—Mrs. Cecil Appleberry, 5 Lake Forest Parkway; V-P—Miss Helen Lovering; S—Miss Marjorie Voss, 149 Woodlawn Ave.; T—Warwick R. Baker; Sec. Jr. Work—Mrs. Warwick R. Baker.

Winston-Salem Bird Club: P—Henry Magie; S-T—Wm. S. Rothrock, 2434 Stockton St.; Directors—Charles H. Babcock, Thurmond Chatham, Jr., Richard J. Reynolds, II.

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB



VOL. XI

NOVEMBER, 1947

No. 5

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Greensboro, N. C.

The Chat

BULLETIN OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

DR. ARCHIE D. SHAFESBURY, *Editor*

Woman's College of University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N. C.

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OFFICERS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BIRD CLUB

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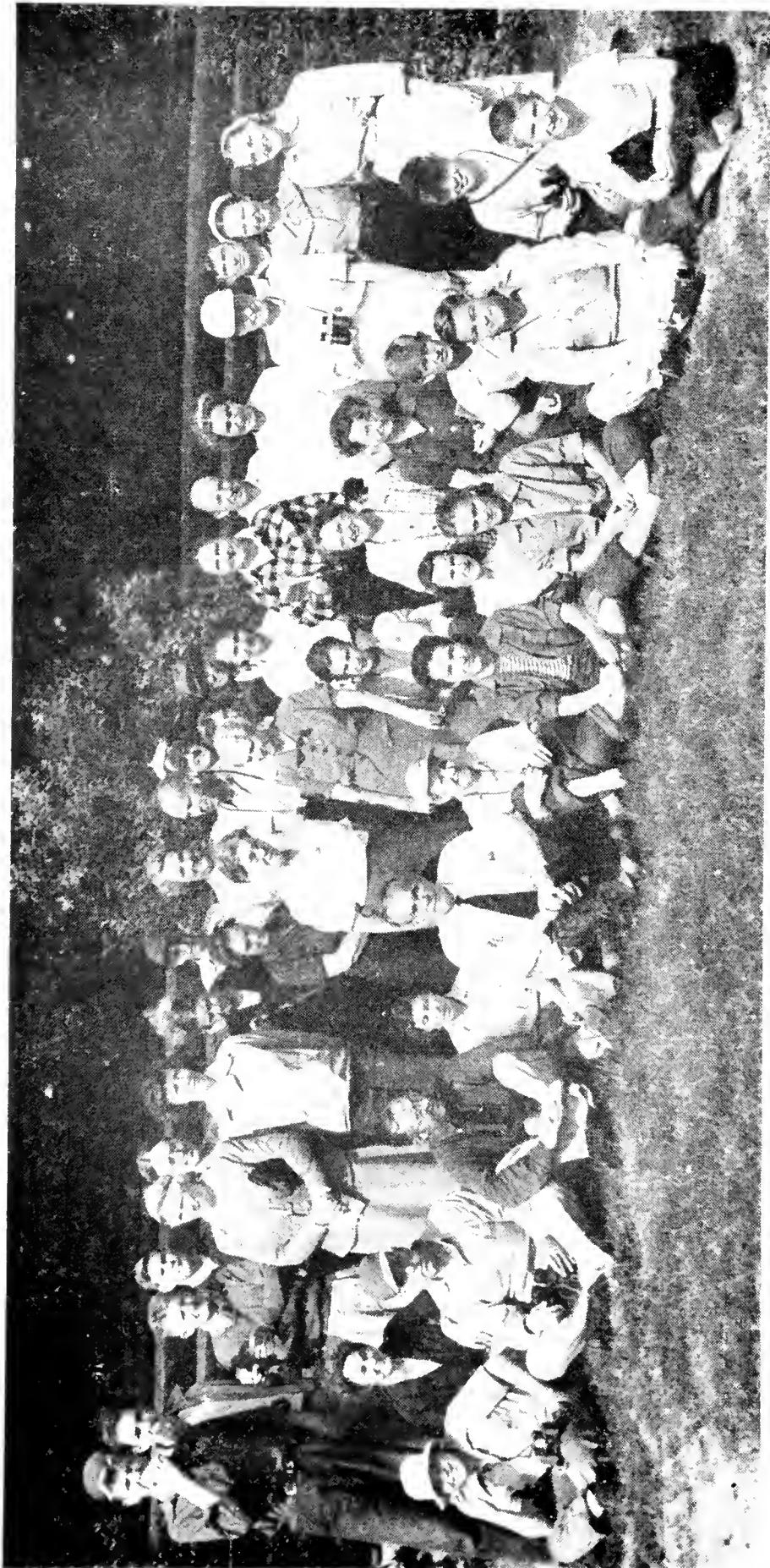
N. C. B. C. Fall Meeting Held at Charlotte

This year the Mecklenburg Audubon Club entertained the North Carolina State Bird Club for their Fall meeting. The groups met on October 18th and 19th, at the Fresh Air Camp located on the Catawba River in York County, S. C., some fourteen miles south of Charlotte, N. C. Fifty birders signed up for the open air bunks and apparently enjoyed themselves. The fifty-two species of birds recorded in the official count for the group was considered fair for the site and season. Upon registration, cabin assignments were made and everyone was turned loose with a copy of Myrtle Warbler's "Field Guide to the People of North Carolina," a parody on Peterson's Guide.

For the principal meal of the meeting, on Saturday evening, turkey was served at a long and attractively decorated table. Place cards were hand-drawn fly-way maps. Favors were miniature bird feeders carefully cut out with cellophane windows and tiny tufts of feathers for birds. Following the meal, the group moved to the Recreation Hall for the general meeting which was presided over by Vice-President B. R. Chamberlain, acting for N. C. B. C. President, Mrs. O. F. Jensen, who had not returned from her summer home in Michigan. Miss Sarah Nooe, of Queens College faculty, welcomed the visitors for the local club and Mrs. Charlotte Hilton Green, of Raleigh, responded for N. C. B. C. Acting for Secretary Dr. Richard Weaver, who was attending the National Audubon Society meeting, Mrs. Margaret Wall read an excellent letter from Mrs. Jensen sending greetings and good wishes to the group. Following this, Dr. A. D. Shaftesbury introduced the speaker, Dr. John H. Grey, Jr., former Editor of *The Chat* and now located at Charlottesville, Va., where he is pastor of the Charlottesville Presbyterian Church, and is also president of the Virginia Ornithological Society. Dr. Grey presented an enjoyable series of films and slides on the shore birds of coastal North Carolina, dealing in detail with the Pea Island area. Identification of species was simplified by slides of plates by Fuertes.

John Trott, Jr., New London, who recently returned from the full season stay at the Audubon Nature Camp in Maine, showed a film of the camp taken the preceding year and a number of slides from his personal collection. Another attraction was the presentation by William Craven, of Goldsboro, of some of his moving pictures, especially one reel featuring herons.

With business deferred until the next day, the meeting was turned over to Mrs. George Potter, who, with the assistance of her daughter, distributed door prizes to everyone. The Grand Prize, carried off by



FALL MEETING, N. C. B. C., CHARLOTTE, OCTOBER 18-19, 1947

Front row, in the usual order: Norman Chamberlain, Charlotte; Miss Marietta Lindsey, Greensboro; B. R. Chamberlain, Charlotte; Dr. John H. Grey, Jr., Charlottesville, Va.; Mrs. Archie D. Shaftesbury, Greensboro; Dr. A. D. Shaftesbury, Greensboro; Mrs. Geo. Potter, Belmont; Miss Elizabeth M. Osborne, Greensboro; Miss Evelyn Brown, Belmont; Miss Terry Nesslinger, Greensboro; Richard Jones, Goldsboro; Wm. M. Craven, Raleigh; Oscar H. Paris, Jr., Greensboro; John Trott, Jr., New London.

Back row: Jim Layton, Charlotte; Harry G. Bryant, Greensboro; Harry Davis, Raleigh; John Carr, Greensboro; Sandy McCullough, Hilton Green, Raleigh; Sarah Nooe, Charlotte; Esther Bennett, Greensboro; Mrs. R. D. Douglas, Greensboro; Mrs. H. H. Brimley, Raleigh; Sally Sandifer, Charlotte; E. B. Chamberlain, Charleston, S. C.; Bob Wolff, Goldsboro; Mrs. Weston Clinard, Hickory; Mrs. B. R. Chamberlain, Charlotte; Miss Mary J. Huff, Belmont; Walter S. Adams, Asheville; Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, Greensboro; Miss Camilla Louise Wills, Wilson; R. H. Rembert, Asheville; Miss Bennie Brafford, Charlotte; Miss Bea Potter, Charlotte.

Middle row: Miss Virginia Pickelle, Raleigh; Miss Anne Locke, Charlotte; Mrs. E. B. Chamberlain, S. C.; Mrs. W. B. Simons, Charlotte; Miss Kitty Constable, Charlotte; Dr. Charlotte Dawley, Greensboro.

Not shown in the photo are: Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Holmes, Tryon; Miss Sara Avant, Miss Kitty Sandifer, Chuck Erexon, Tom Killian, Bren Mayer, and Duke Sanches, who took the picture.

Vice-President Bob Wolff of Goldsboro, was a black and white drawing by Ralph Ray, a popular artist of the Charlotte area. Other prizes ranged from a large concrete bird bath to bird seed.

On Sunday, the early risers warmed up before breakfast with a cup of hot coffee and compared notes on the previous evening, or strolled over the grounds again. Most of the group attended the business meeting which convened at 10 o'clock. Among the decisions reached were the dropping of numbers in the titles of Vice-Presidents; the selection of the week-end of December 6th for a field trip to Pea Island, with Bob Wolff in charge of arrangements; and the selection of Bulls Island, S. C., for a second winter field trip with B. R. Chamberlain in charge of arrangements, dates to be set at the November Executive Meeting. At noon Sunday another hearty meal was served and after posing for a group photograph the members began to break camp for the return trip home.

Members of the Mecklenburg Audubon Club who deserve special credit table decorations; Mrs. W. B. Simons and Miss Bea Potter, in charge of meals; Miss Sarah Nooe and Miss Kitty Sandifer, in charge of registration; Miss Sally Sandifer and Miss Kitty Constable, in charge of table decorations; Mrs. W. B. Simmons and Miss Bea Potter, in charge of favors and place cards; and Mrs. George Potter, in charge of awards.

B. R. C.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO N. C. B. C. MEMBERS AT CHARLOTTE MEETING

Maple City, Mich., Oct. 9, 1947.

Dear North Carolina Bird Club Members:

Awakening to the eerie call of the lone Loon out of the lake this morning, I could but wish you were all here, not only to see and hear him, but to observe the flocks and flocks of Bluebirds and Flickers that are going through on their way south. Sunday we were out "nutting," and ran into several flocks of Myrtle Warblers and three Juncos—the forerunners of the spectacular migration that takes place the latter part of this month. Ducks and Geese have not appeared as yet. In fact, all southward movement seems much later than last year, and I am eager to learn if their arrival dates in the south will show the same lag.

The highlight of September was our visit to the American Ornithologists' Union meeting, which was held this year in Toronto, Ont., Canada. The trip there was interesting. Leaving Lake Michigan, which is visible from our cottage, we spent the next night in Canada, on Lake Huron, close to the spot where the great freighters funnel down into the St. Claire River. All night long boats were to be seen and heard. The next night found us on Lake Ontario. We were much impressed with the assets we own jointly with Canada, for these lakes are beauty spots.

Going out to the Royal Ontario Museum to register, we found the meetings were to be held in a very new and modern building, the Museum, which is a part of the

University. Most of the buildings were very old—architecturally very beautiful—so lovely in their soft aged lines. We found two welcome faces, our own Alexander Sprunt, Jr., and E. B. Chamberlain, Curator of the Charleston, S. C., Museum, and twin brother of our Vice-president, B. R. Chamberlain. Looking over the register was like looking over a roster of "Who's Who in the world of ornithology." It was a thrill to recognize a few of the men about whom we have either heard so much, read their books, or enjoyed their paintings. Alexander Wetmore, Ludlow Griscom, Frederick Lincoln, Dr. A. A. Allen, Olin Sewall Pettingill who followed the Whooping Cranes, W. J. Breckenridge, Richard Pough, Dr. Kendeigh, Dr. Harold Brooks—were all names that rang a bell with me. Had I been better informed, I'm sure many others would be mentioned. Bird banders were there too, but not the back yard type. They were the kind that run at least 25 traps spread over a wide area to attract a wider variety of birds. Their yearly reports run well up into the thousands.

One of the most interesting talks to a layman such as myself, was an illustrated lecture given by Dr. A. A. Allen, of Cornell University. His kodachromes were taken with a camera using stroboscopic light which had been loaned him by the National Geographic Society. Action was so stopped down that now the eye could catch secrets hitherto unrevealed. A Robin was seen to turn each individual feather of her wing so as to present as little wind resistance as possible on the up beat of her wing. The next picture showed an entirely different angle on the down beat. She had completely turned each feather so as to present as broad a surface as possible to enable a greater push downward. A Chickadee was seen putting on his brakes to make a sudden stop to take a sunflower seed out of the teeth of Dr. Allen's attractive daughter. The feathers of the wing were bent in an arc on the down beat.

We were fascinated with a paper by Dr. R. W. Dexter, of Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, on "Observations on Territoriality, Mating Behavior and Nesting of the Chimney Swift." This paper dealt with private lives and marital indiscretions of these birds as might have been related by Walter Winchell. In several years of banding it was possible to trace the trial marriages, divorces and remarriages as these birds moved their residence from chimney to chimney. Many of the papers were, of course, highly technical. Unfortunately, it was not possible for us to attend all of the sessions, but we attended enough to gain a very healthy respect for the work of the members of the A. O. U.

We expect to be home soon and will welcome seeing any of you in Chapel Hill. Best wishes for a profitable and enjoyable meeting.

ZORA P. JENSEN.

News of the Local Clubs

HICKORY BIRD CLUB: Regular monthly meetings were resumed with the meeting Thursday evening, September 11th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Clinard. The new year books were submitted for tentative programs for the coming year. The club is to take up the study of nidification or nest building, and the nesting habits of one of the bird families will be discussed on each program. Mrs. Katherine Vallotton led the first discussion in the new series, using as her subject the blackbird family (Icteridae), which includes Bobolinks, Meadowlarks, Orioles, and others. In the round-table discussion, Mrs. W. J. Shuford told how she cured a cat from catching birds by putting red pepper on a bird which her cat brought in.

At the October meeting, held on the evening of the 9th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Moser, the scheduled speaker, Dr. Harry D. Althouse, was unable to be present, and J. W. Clinard lead the discussion on the Thrush family (Turdidae),

which includes, besides the Thrushes, the Robins and Bluebirds. Mr. Althouse stated that the mimic thrushes (family Mimidae), an exclusively American group, including the Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, and Catbird, are now considered scientifically distinct from the true Thrushes, and he pointed out the fact that there are some birds called Thrushes which are not Thrushes, for instance the Water Thrushes which are actually Warblers. Mr. Moser had on display a fine collection of nests.

Mrs. George Warlick is scheduled to be hostess for the November meeting.

PIEDMONT BIRD CLUB: The first fall meeting was a basket supper, held at the Greensboro Country Park Clubhouse, on the afternoon of September 20th. No formal program was given but various members told of their bird experiences during the summer. Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall and Mrs. Edith Settan gave a few highlights of their sessions at the Audubon Nature Camp in Maine, Miss Marietta Lindsey told of birds, including four kinds of hummingbirds, which she saw in California, and other members also made interesting comments. Field trip chairman Hugh Medford announced that regular weekly field trips would be held during the remainder of the year.

At the regular meeting held on the evening of October 16th, in the Science Building at Woman's College of the University of North Carolina, Dr. Charlotte Dawley, of the biology faculty at Woman's College, gave a very interesting and practical talk on Planting to Attract Birds.

The annual Christmas Dinner is planned for Friday evening, December 19th, at 6:15, in the American Legion Building, with John Trott, Jr., as principal speaker. The club's Christmas bird count will be conducted on Saturday, December 27th.

The Catesby Bird Club Organized at High Point

An enthusiastic group of bird lovers met October 2nd, at the home of Mrs. John C. Siceloff in High Point to organize a bird club. James R. Mattocks was elected President; Mrs. Chester C. Haworth, Secretary, and Mrs. John C. Siceloff, Treasurer. The new club will be known as The Catesby Bird Club.

Shortly after organization the club won a blue ribbon for an outstanding exhibit at the High Point Flower Show. The exhibit centered around two old Catesby prints and featured other old prints, bird books, and literature.

A number of field trips and some interesting programs are being planned. Several of the members of this new club were already members of the North Carolina Bird Club.

With the excellent talented leadership of this group and the deep interest displayed by all members, this club should develop into a unique, interesting, and valuable bird study organization.

Let's Bring the Martins Back

JOE JONES, Chapel Hill, N. C.

In his book, *Footnotes on Nature*, John Kieran grieves over the disappearance of the Purple Martin from many areas where once it was common. What a pity he failed to conclude his lament with an appeal

to his readers to help bring back the Martins by putting up boxes and gourds for them!

There was a time when every village had its colonies of these cheerful friendly Swallows. Then Martin boxes went out of style. The generation with time for such things passed away. The gourds and boxes fell apart and nobody replaced them. The Martins became a memory. To complete the sad story, the Starlings in their thousands had arrived to eject the Martins from whatever nesting sites were left.

Why can't we have a revival of the Martin box era? There is only one way to bring the Martins back. People have got to put up houses and gourds for them and protect them from the Starling. This should be a pleasant task for anybody who is interested in birds. All that it requires is a few gourds or a simple wooden box with four or five rooms, and patience. It may take years to get Martins, but it will be a happy day when you do get them.

A member of the North Carolina Bird Club who has had this pleasure is Dr. Wesley Taylor, of Greensboro, N. C. When asked for some pointers on how to attract Martins, Dr. Taylor kindly sent the writer a delightful letter on the subject. Here are some of the things he said:

"If the apartments are left up during July and August wandering birds will have a chance to look them over and the scouts, who arrive in the spring ahead of the mass of birds, will go to them at once. Another point that I learned slowly was that houses must be up before the scouts arrive, and they get here with the first nice weather after the middle of February. This year it was February 26. It is not often that they really arrive before March 4. One year it was the third week in March.

"Martins like to be out in the open, and they do not like to occupy houses near trees or large buildings. When I came here there were no Martins nearer than about six miles, and I coaxed and coaxed for several years before they noticed me. Three pairs came the first year. The number grew until within six or eight years I had sixty pairs. My luck has been much better with gourds than with houses."

The January, 1946, issue of *The Chat* carried an article by Dr. Taylor in which he wrote at greater length on his experiences with Martins. He said that gourds or houses should be on poles at least ten or fifteen feet high, gourds should be seven or eight inches in diameter, and entrance holes $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The compartments in a Martin box should be six inches square, with the entrance hole near the bottom.

The author of the present article recently wrote to several persons listed some months ago in *The Chat* as having Martin gourds for sale. The only satisfactory answers came from the Blackville Mercantile Co.,

Blackville, S. C., and Mrs. L. M. Wooten, Camilla, Ga. Mrs. Wooten said, "I can send you any amount of Martin gourds at 25 cents each, express collect."

A ten-room Martin house can be obtained from Sears-Roebuck for about \$11. Anybody who wishes to build his own can get full directions, including diagrams, from the National Audubon Society, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York 28, N. Y. Ask for Circular No. 29 on "Bird Houses" and enclose a dime; or five cents per circular if six or more are ordered.

The revival of Martin colonies would make a fine project for any bird club. We are at work on it here in Chapel Hill. No Martins have nested here in years. But we're going to change that. The gourds and boxes are going up.

Let's bring the Martins back. Now is the time to get ready for those February scouts.

Christmas Bird Count, December 20-28

This year, as for the past number of years, the North Carolina Bird Club will cooperate with the National Audubon Society in making the Christmas count of the number and kinds of birds in various localities throughout the nation. Last year, for the first time, *The Chat* included publication of one count from South Carolina. We hope to include more South Carolina localities in our list of counts this year. Local clubs, groups, and individuals are asked to make counts wherever possible. Get all of your local bird enthusiasts in this game, and see that the beginners go with more experienced observers. Here, in condensed form, are some of the rules of the count.

ABBREVIATED RULES FOR THE COUNT

1. Counts are to be made between December 20th and 28th, inclusive. No counts should be taken earlier or later than these dates.
2. An adequate count for North Carolina localities should last at least 7 hours and may not extend beyond one calendar day. From dawn to dusk is best.
3. The total area covered must not exceed a circle 15 miles in diameter.
4. Birds not actually recorded in the area itself are not to be included in the totals.
5. Birds must be listed in the order of the A.O.U. check list as followed in most recent bird books. Do not use sub-specific names, except in a few cases where sub-species can be readily identified in the field and you have made such identification.
6. Count all wild birds positively identified by sight or sound. Count exotic species, as English Sparrow and Starling, on the same basis as native birds. In case of unusual rarity, substantiating details must be given in parentheses, immediately

following the records, with the initials of the observer vouching for its identification.

7. A numerical value is to be given to the number of birds seen. Necessary estimates of large flocks should be indicated as such, and the words "abundant," "common," and such are to be avoided.

8. Observations made on foot while covering a prescribed route which will remain the same from year to year are preferred. Each hour afield by a lone observer counts as one hour, but observers, when working in a party, record only total hours the party was in the field. If a party breaks up into smaller groups, the time should be adjusted accordingly. Mileage should be recorded on the same basis.

9. Each participant or each party should submit only one report. The count should be submitted under the name of the most significant geographical locality in or adjacent to the area. Give the time of starting, ending, weather conditions, number of observers, the various habitat types covered and the total percentage of time spent in each, number of miles covered by cars and on foot, and names of observers.

10. If possible, reports should be typewritten, DOUBLE SPACED, and on one side of the paper. For the sake of the printers, please DO NOT SEND US FAINT CARBON COPIES OR REPORTS ON VERY THIN SHEETS. Mail your report to: *The Chat*, care Woman's College, U. N. C., Greensboro, N. C., NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 30th. Give names of all participants. A record on a separate sheet of paper of the names and addresses of all participants will be appreciated. (Copies to appear in the Audubon Magazine should be arranged according to their requirements for line lengths and mailed promptly to: National Audubon Society, 1000 Fifth Ave., New York 28, N. Y.)

11. Check your report with a sample report from the *Audubon Field Notes* (July, 1947), or from the November 1946 issue of *The Chat*. (Drop a card request to the editor if you need a copy of the November, 1946, issue.)

Field Notes and News

HICKORY, N. C.: On July 30th, a bird flew into the building where I work, and some of the men caught it and brought it to me. It was slightly stunned from flying against the window, and we had a good look at it. The bird, which was a Hooded Warbler, soon revived and we let it fly away. I had never seen one before and have never heard of one being previously reported here. In *Birds of North Carolina* it is stated that they are found all over the state but are more abundant in the eastern section. I would call it a rare bird here.

J. WESTON CLINARD

ANSONVILLE, N. C.: Let me announce the arrival of the first wild Canada Geese, 3 in number, on October 12, and there are now, on October 24th, 120. I'm thinking, if the weather turns cool, with a full moon next week, the number will be greatly increased within ten days. It is certainly interesting to watch the new arrivals, as they come in each day. We notice the family groups, the banded ones, and a few ducks. Some of the geese show the wide Miner bands, some show our narrower bands, and some have one of each. The federal government is not going to be able to help me feed them this year, so I'm having to make a slight charge to help carry on.

LOCKHART GADDY

PURPLE MARTINS AT LEAKSVILLE, N. C.: How is it that other persons' Purple Martins first get back on the 22nd of March or on some other specified date year in and year out, when our Purple Martins here at Leaksville are just as fickle and changeable as the weather in their arrival dates? Here are some of the dates on which our birds first showed up: 1941, March 29; 1942, March 18; 1943,

March 15; 1944, March 11; 1945, March 6; 1946, March 4; and 1947, March 14.

I tried five years to get just one pair of Purple Martins. None could be seen in Leaksville. Then in 1940, on May 20th, one pair nested. Now my brother and I and three friends have up four twenty-five room houses and 35 gourds for these swallow songsters. We had more than one hundred birds in 1946. Anyone wishing to see these birds, when they are here, can ask the boulevard postmaster where I live. (I live within sight of the postoffice.)

GEO. M. SUTTENFIELD.

CEDAR WAXWINGS NEST AT LAKE JUNALUSKA, N. C.: About mid-June of the present summer, two nests of Cedar Waxwings were located at Lake Junaluska, Haywood County, N. C. The nests were in pine trees, about ten feet above the ground, and were observed each day until four young left each nest. One nest was abandoned on July 4th, and the last of the other four young left their nest on July 5th.

SARAH LESLEY, Greensboro, N. C.

CEDAR WAXWINGS NEST AT BILTMORE, N. C.: After having watched Cedar Waxwings build a nest and hatch four young, we observed the young leave the nest on the morning of July 10. One young fell from the nest, and on examination it was found to have all adult markings, red dots on the wings, and yellow and black markings on its very short tail. The nest, which was located about 30-35 feet up in a white pine tree, was constructed of weed stems, grasses, and pieces of string and paper worked in, and was securely fastened where large and small limbs branched. We had had large flocks of Cedar Waxwings feeding in this area all winter.

(July 18, 1947.)

ODESSA CHAMBERS

SWIFTS SMUDGE CHARLOTTE HOME: One evening during the latter part of September, Mrs. C. C. Keiger tried to light a fire in her home at Charlotte, N. C., and as a result, Dr. and Mrs. Keiger battled soot smudged Chimney Swifts for three hours in their living room and sun parlor. The Keigers finally gave up and called the fire department, who tried lighting another fire to drive the Swifts out but only succeeded in smoking themselves out. Finally exterminators came to the rescue with poison gas and the birds were done for, and so were the wallpaper, drapes, curtains, rugs, and furniture. And I guess the moral of this is, if you have Swifts nesting in your chimney, don't build a fire; if you have Swifts roosting in your chimney, start your fire well before dark—before the birds go to roost.

A. D. S.

AN INVASION OF SWIFTS: A startling invasion took place in the home of Mrs. John C. Dockery, of Rockingham, N. C., late one evening in April. The family was sitting in the living room when a bird flew into the room—a matter of surprise because the windows were all closed. This bird was quickly followed by another and another, until a stream of birds poured out of the open, empty fireplace, and the chimney was filled with the roar of a rushing wind. The birds, Chimney Swifts, of course, were more terrified than the people, and hurled themselves around the walls, banked themselves on the divan, tangled in the drapes and curtains, knocked over ornaments, and perched, teetering, on picture frames, uttering shrill squeaks of terror, and accompanied by clouds of ashes and soot. Hall doors were quickly closed, windows were opened, and the family armed themselves with brooms, newspapers, and towels, and the invaders were soon driven into outer darkness, leaving ruin behind them. Four scuttles of soot and ashes were removed from the floor, and it took two men three days to clean the rugs, ceiling and walls, but there are still marks where the sooty birds hurled themselves about in their frantic efforts to escape.

LUCY P. RUSSELL.

Annual Statement of Treasurer of North Carolina Bird Club

Balance on hand May 5, 1946	\$ 589.14
Dues Collected May 10, 1946—April 25, 1947	1151.20
Registration fees, State Meeting, Boone, N. C.	36.30
Roanoke Rapids Bird Club, Loyalty Night contribution	10.00
Raleigh Bird Club, Loyalty Night contributions	<u>17.45</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$ 1804.09

DISBURSEMENTS

Lecture, Boone Meeting	60.00
Telegreans, Boone Meeting	3.18
Postage	123.49
Printing and Cuts for <i>The Chat</i>	437.20
Office Equipment, Balance paid on Addressograph	19.50
Dues, National Audubon Society	11.00
Office Supplies, Stationery, etc.	96.24
Gift, Roadside Council	5.00
Gift, Negro High School Ornithology Essay winners	4.50
Funeral flowers	10.00
Bank Charge on checks of non-par. banks .....	.90
Bank charge, state tax .....	.58
Bank charge, service	3.14
Returned checks, un-honored	2.00
Refund dues	1.00
Telephone call	1.50
Expense fall meeting	<u>9.75</u>

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$ 788.98

Total receipts, May 5, 1946—April 25, 1947	1804.09
Total disbursements, May 5, 1946—April 25, 1947	<u>788.98</u>

Balance on hand April 25, 1947 \$ 1015.11

(Note: This balance includes \$320.45 earmarked for Special Funds; which leaves a balance of \$694.66 in the General Fund.)

(Greensboro, N. C., May 25, 1947)

MARGARET Y. WALL, Treasurer.

Mrs. Moses Cone Passes

Mrs. Bertha Lindau Cone died June 8th, 1947, at her summer home at Flat Top Manor, Blowing Rock, N. C. Mrs. Cone was one of the first Life Members of the North Carolina Bird Club. For a number of years she resided in Greensboro where her husband was a co-founder of the Cone mill interests. A few years after her husband's death she moved from Greensboro, and divided most of her time between the residence of her sister, Miss Lindau, in Baltimore, and her estate at Blowing Rock. Mrs. Cone helped in many worthy causes. Her 3,500 acre estate, Flat Top Manor, which fronts the Blue Ridge Parkway in the Blowing Rock region, has been offered to the federal and state parks services as a public recreation area. Her greatest benefaction was the establishment of the Moses H. Cone Hospital fund, estimated at \$15,000,000, for the establishment, at Greensboro, of an outstanding medical institution, whose charter provides that "no patient shall be refused admittance or admission nor be discharged because of inability to pay" for his care and treatment.

With the Editor

NEW OFFICERS OF LOCAL CLUBS: Please send promptly to *The Chat* the names and addresses of the new officers of your local club, and be certain that the names are written plainly.

NESTING BOXES: Take down all your nesting boxes now and clean them thoroughly, repair and repaint them where necessary, and replace a few for refuge for wintering woodpeckers and other birds.

MARTIN GOURDS: I specialize in growing gourds for bird houses and will appreciate any sales from your state. Sizes for Purple Martins are 6½ inches and larger, and are 25c each. I have sizes for other birds; also have peanuts for bird feed at 20c a pound. Gourds and peanuts sent by express collect, unless postage is added for parcel post. MRS. L. M. WOOTEN, Camilla, Ga.

PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES—or other representatives of each local group are urged to send in promptly to *The Chat* all news of local meetings and other activities, as well as bird observations. Typewrite if possible, or write legibly, on one side of the paper. Be careful to spell names correctly, and be sure to include correct initials and titles. And don't overlook the dates. When enclosing newspaper clippings, mark them plainly to show the name of the newspaper and its date.

A PUBLICATION ON MATTAMUSKEET, Pea Island, and Swanquarter National Wildlife Refuges in North Carolina has just been issued by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as Number 4 in their "Conservation in Action" series. Copies of this attractive publication may be obtained for 10 cents each from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C. A limited number of copies are available for free distribution, and may be secured by sending a request to Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C.

"THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY wishes to thank the North Carolina Bird Club for providing a scholarship to the (Maine) Audubon Nature Camp for Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall for the 1947 season. . . The staff reports her to be a fine leader, a hard worker, and a person with a great deal of originality. . . She was an excellent scholarship choice. . . The Society greatly appreciates the active interest of the North Carolina Bird Club in the Audubon Nature Camp and in its program for furthering wildlife conservation through providing special training for teachers and youth leaders."

HIGH SCHOOL ORNITHOLOGY ESSAY CONTEST: The North Carolina Academy of Science and the North Carolina State Museum are again offering prizes for the best essays on birds by North Carolina High School students, and local bird clubs are asked to consider organizing and conducting local contests in the high schools of their county, with the best selections to be entered in the state-wide contest. This should be done immediately. The contest will probably close about March 15th. Teachers and others who are interested may secure a copy of the rules of the contest, and also details regarding the Academy of Science sponsored awards for high school science exhibits, by writing to: Dr. Archie D. Shaftesbury, Chairman High School Science Committee, North Carolina Academy of Science, W. C. U. N. C., Greensboro, N. C.

Membership List, North Carolina Bird Club, Nov. 1, 1947

(*—Charter Members; †—Deceased.)

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*Joe Jones, Box 271, Chapel Hill

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ATTENTION, LOCAL CLUB PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES: The May, 1947, issue of *The Chat* carried a notice regarding the decision of the North Carolina Bird Club to form a federation with the local clubs in order to establish closer relations with the local groups and promote more efficient state-wide work. If you have not already presented this to your local group, please do so. This new plan is to go into effect on January 1st, 1948. A fee of 10 cents a member from the local club (minimum total \$2.50), is to be sent to the treasurer of the N. C. B. C. Local clubs already having 100% membership in the N. C. B. C. are exempted from this 10c fee. All affiliating clubs are to register with Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, Treasurer N. C. B. C., 6 Springdale Court, Greensboro, N. C., on or before February 15th of each year. Local units claiming exemption from the 10c fee will also submit a complete list of their paid-up members, on or before each February 15th. Each affiliated local club will be entitled to send a voting representative to one specified N. C. B. C. Executive Committee meeting each year, for the consideration of plans and policies. A copy of *The Chat* will be sent to the club library of each affiliated local group.

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Of course the North Carolina Bird Club Treasurer, Mrs. Margaret Y. Wall, 6 Springdale Court, Greensboro, N. C., will be sending you a bill soon, *BUT* we are making the suggestion that we hope you can find it convenient to remit your dues at once so as to save a lot of late holiday work for your Treasurer. Thank you for considering this suggestion.

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